E/ECA/PSD.3/24

Readex
Fiche

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
LIMITED

E/ECA/PSD.3/24
11 October 1983

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Third session of the Joint Conference of
African Planners, Statisticians and
Demographers

Addis Ababa, 5-14 March 1984

REPORT ON ECA STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES 1982-1983 AND WORK PROGRAMME 1984-1987 WITH PROJECTIONS TO 1989

CONTENTS

	Paragraphs
Review of statistical activities 1982-1983	
Introduction	1 - 3
Staffing and organization of the ECA Statistics Division	4 - 8
Implementation of the work programme	9
Sub-programme 1: Statistical development	10 - 22
Sub-programme 2: Economic statistics	23 - 33
Sub-programme 3: Censuses and surveys	34 - 45
Concluding comment	46 - 49
Programme of work and priorities 1984-1987 with projections to 1989	
Questions for consideration by the Joint Conference	50 - 58
Work programme details	
Annex	

Review of statistical activities 1982-1983

Introduction

1. This report deals with ECA statistical activities since the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers. As the main purpose of these activities is to assist the development of African statistical services, the report should be considered in conjunction with the paper on African statistical services for item 6(f) of the agenda which arises from resolution 469(XVIII) of the Economic Commission for Africa. The resolution specifies action which should be taken by governments and agencies to achieve better supplies of more reliable data.

2. The purpose of the present report is to enable an overall assessment of recent work on statistics which will serve as a basis for revising the future work programme The report also provides information on a few topics not covered by other conference documents.

3. The second part of the report raises some questions to be considered in revising the program and provides programme details.

Staffing and organization of the ECA Statistics Division

4. To put the programme into perspective it is first necessary to give a brief account of the staff resources available and the way they are used. The overall position shown in the summary table below is that the division has approximately 28 professional posts, of which 13 are financed from the regular budget. It also has 28 general service posts, of which 18 come under the regular budget.

5. The number of posts is described as approximate because many are financed from extra-budgetary sources and their availability depends on the confidence of funding agencies in the ECA statistical programme and on the financial situations of these agencies. In fact, there has been reasonable stability in recent years, marred only by a difficulty in financing two posts for survey specialists.

6. The structural arrangements shown in the summary table indicate that, while the division retains formal substantive sections, its work is progressively being incorporated in a small number of major projects which cover the essentials of statistical development and are in themselves strong enough to have an impact on the statistics of the region. Co-ordination between these projects is of course important for further development of the overall programme.

7. Also reflected in the summary table are the two main objectives of the programme. Most projects are concerned with direct technical support to African statistical services but, organized in parallel with them, is a statistical data service for the region. Data compilations is the responsibility of the substantive sections and technical co-ordination is provided by a small data bank section which also deals with international trade statistics.

8. A list of professional staff is given in the second table. It shows that 23 of the 28 posts were filled in May 1983, with the survey capability programme as the main problem area. The list does not specify a few movements of staff between posts during the reporting period.

Implementation of the work programme

9. The work programme has now been arranged under three sub-programmes to conform with the medium-term plan and the programme budget. The following notes are presented in the same way.

Sub-programme 1: Statistical development

10. This sub-programme covers general aspects of co-ordination and development; establishment of the statistical data base and training. In the first of these groups, a major item is the servicing of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers.

11. After the second session of the joint conference an evaluation survey was carried out and 67 per cent of the participants responded. The results, which have been reported separately, served to identify ways in which arrangements for the conference could be improved and the necessary action has been taken. A further change results from the inclusion of information and computer specialists in the joint conference, as requested by the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1982.

12. Recent work on statistical organization has aimed to clarify the problems faced by African countries and propose solutions. The results, which are essentially a follow-up to the 1981 working group on statistical organization and manpower and an interpretation of what was said by the first two sessions of the joint conference, were reported to the ECA Conference of Ministers in April 1983. It adopted a resolution **469(XVIII)** and requested further consideration of the matter by the joint conference, which is the reason for agenda item 6(f) noted above. Not all the problems considered in the resolution are applicable to all African countries; the resolution is intended to provide for remedial action where necessary.

13. A revised Directory of African Statisticians has been prepared and the ECA Statistical Newsletter has been issued regularly, but only in one language. A preliminary note on the development of environment and natural resource statistics, which will be a new area of activity, is included in the present report.

14. The statistical data base at ECA has made progress, but more slowly than expected. A separate report indicates that the bulk of available material (international trade, national accounts and prices) is stored in Level 2 of the data base which deals with individual data records, but there has been insufficient disc space to use it on an on-line basis and only price information has so far been organized under a data base management system (DBMS).

15. Level 3, which accommodates selected data series, has a DBMS and priority has been given to the entry of data for the African Statistical Yearbook. It is expected that the first computerised issue of the yearbook will be prepared before the end of 1983. Nevertheless it should be understood that the main purpose of Level 3 is to facilitate data analysis, particularly economic projections.

16. Level 1 of the data base will provide quick country profiles and can be brought into operation when there is sufficient material in Level 3 or when Level 2 is fully organized, if adequate computer services are available. It will not itself contain data but will obtain them from the other two levels.

17. Although progress of the ECA data base has fallen short of expectations, it should be noted that similar work in other agencies has also had problems. A report to the 1983 session of the UN Statistical Commission drew attention to fairly widespread difficulties in respect of DBMSs and other aspects of data base arrangements.

18. A further point to be noted is that a number of agencies within the UN system now have statistical data bases and the information they contain comes either from countries or through exchange of data between agencies. The exchange activities themselves help to promote co-ordination and standardization but a more conscious effort in this respect will be needed in the future. The international data bases should be properly co-ordinated to provide encouragement and guidance for similar work at national level.

19. The Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) and the 1983 meeting of the directors of its member centres are fully reported in separate documents, so here it is necessary only to comment on the overall status of the programme. Training is always a popular form of technical assistance but STPA seems to have done better than many projects, possibly because it is operating on a larger scale.

20. It still includes the 12 original member centres, to which one in Senegal and two demographic centres have been added, together with a number of non-African associate members. The centres constitute not only a very significant training capability but also a body of experience which, properly applied, can ensure that African statistical training is developed in a way that most effectively meets the needs of the region.

21. The European Economic Community (EEC) responded well to the request for assistance contained in ECA resolution 415 (XVI) and the results of a joint EEC/ACP/ECA study on statistical training needs are expected in mid-1983. It is to be hoped that this will not only lead to some improvement in the supply of student fellowships, but also a critical assessment of STPA which will help to improve its technical performance. The ECA effort to develop guide syllabuses, which can be adapted to the needs of individual centres or **in-service training** arrangements, is already arousing international interest. Teaching material will have to be provided for some of these courses.

22. It is disappointing that the special training project envisaged for Portuguese-speaking countries has not made more progress but the secretariat is ready to support when requested to do so. In addition it has to be noted that the STPA regional supporting component is currently operating with limited resources. One of its technical posts has been left vacant after transferring funds to the survey capability programme, but most of the shortfall has been made good by other staff of the Statistics Division.

Sub-programme 2: Economic statistics

23. Economic statistics is probably the most promising area for a new development effort at the present time and it is certainly the area most urgently in need of improvement. Lack of up-to-date and reasonably comprehensive information on national economic situations is now a matter of serious international concern, particularly in view of the extent to which developing countries have been affected by oil price increases and global recession as well as other problems.

24. In recent years there has been a considerable amount of assistance to economic statistics, although nothing like that in the demographic field, yet its impact seems to have been small. The situation is surprising because the collection of economic statistics are not particularly expensive in comparison with, say, household surveys and nearly all African countries have sufficient staff for some useful work to be done.

25 Evaluations of statistical services have pointed strongly to the conclusion that, very often, available resources are not being fully utilized, which means that statistical services in many countries have a management problem. Another cause of the present difficulty is that technical assistance has been directed towards individual subject fields rather than economic statistics as a whole.

26. The problems and the action needed to overcome them are discussed in detail in the paper on African statistical services for item 6(f) of the agenda and in that on economic statistics for agenda item 17. Here it is sufficient to note that the position has been fully recognised in the National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP) which is already operating with the limited resources available.

27. Briefly, the purpose of NACP, as approved by the second session of the joint conference, is to assist individual countries in evaluating their needs with respect to economic statistics and to provide supporting services which ensure that these needs are fulfilled. Clearly a necessary requirement in this connection is that countries which decide to participate in NACP should be prepared to commit themselves to programmes of work in economic statistics which operate according to reasonably precise timetables. Without such an understanding, any new assistance would be as ineffective as before.

28. Recent discussions with the World Bank have indicated the prospect of a collaborative effort in implementing NACP and the Government of France has expressed interest in providing an expert. There is no doubt that external assistance can be made available for the improvement of economic statistics but it is necessary to have the assurance of individual countries that it will be properly applied.

29. The use of MACP as a means of developing economic statistics in general, rather than just national accounts, of course has implications for the work of the ECA Statistics Division. The staff concerned with particular branches of economic statistics will need to devote some of their time to assisting individual countries rather than working more generally on methodological issues. This is a re-orientation of activity and does not call for any significant immediate change in the formal programme of work. However it does mean more travel, which leads to a financial problem.

30. This report does not deal with the details of work on national accounts, finance, prices, external trade, industrial statistics, etc. because they are fully described elsewhere. However there are two points which should be noted.

31. The up-to-date national accounts estimates prepared by ECA are widely used internationally and continue to have a good reputation but it has been suggested that the figures would be easier to use if there were agreed dates for inserting revisions. The data could then be regarded as valid for republication and other purposes during specified periods.

32. ECA does in fact prepare the estimates at regular intervals but, on each occasion, new national data are included. This leads to changes in series previously published, which users find inconvenient. However, the secretariat feels that the figures should be revised continuously in the interest of improving data quality.

33. The second point relates to the African programme for developing price statistics on a self-reliant basis. Progress has so far been slow but it is notable that 15 African countries were able to participate in Phase IV of the International Comparison Project (ICP). ECA now has an important role in assisting ICP and intends to organize a meeting for discussion of the African results at the time of the joint conference. It has been agreed that ECA will use part of this meeting for an examination of the more general price statistics programme. This will provide an opportunity to consider the co-ordination of the two programmes in price statistics, which could have significant advantages for both.

Sub-programme 3. Censuses and surveys

34. In addition to the specific projects on censuses and surveys, this sub-programme includes demographic and social statistics. It is described in a little more detail in the present report because there is no separate document on this part of the work programme.

35. A paper on concepts, definitions and classifications in the study of fertility, mortality and migration has been prepared for consideration by the joint conference under agenda item 33(c). Another paper which reviews the development of social indicators in Africa was prepared for a 1983 ECA meeting on socio-economic indicators. Work also continued on the construction of the demographic and social part of the statistical data base.

36. Due to shortage of funds it was not possible to hold a working group on the improvement of migration statistics or a training workshop for civil registration personnel of English-speaking countries in 1982. However, the working documents for the first of these projects have been published in the Statistical Information Bulletin. A manual on civil registration was also finalised for publication and new proposals for improving methodology in this area were given preliminary examination. A training course on social statistics was organised for the Ethiopian Government.

37. In addition the Demographic and Social Statistics Section prepared a new issue of the Directory of African Statisticians and maintained its support to the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) and the UDEAC-CREP project (Regional Centre for Population Studies in Central Africa). As well as the regular administrative and technical services provided for CREP, two documents were prepared for a 1982 sub-regional working group on the 1980 round of population censuses and two regional advisers attended the meeting.

38. The Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS) has six posts: demographic statistics, 2, data processing, 1; cartography, 2; and civil registration, 1. Most of the advisory time available has been devoted to population censuses, with civil registration and demographic surveys taking up the remainder. Regular budget staff of the Statistics Division also participate in the work as necessary. Operations are now regarded as routine, in the sense that they are well established, and they are proving an effective and necessary means of solving technical and practical problems quickly.

39. RASDS greatly reduces the need for country experts, it has an influence on national data processing arrangements in a wider field than demographic statistics and its cartographic work is applicable to all kinds of censuses and surveys. In 1982-1983 19 countries had population censuses in progress, 14 were improving on expanding civil registration schemes and 8 undertook or were preparing to carry out demographic surveys. A more detailed report on these activities is given in the document for agenda item 33(a).

40. The African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP) is still at an earlier stage of development than RASDS but is making good progress because it is responding to a clearly felt and strongly expressed need of African countries. There is no way of planning economic and social development without adequate information on households and their activities. So far 18 countries have joined the programme and five have started survey operations. At least two more will begin data collection before the end of 1983.

41. External assistance to AHSCP has been forthcoming more slowly than expected for three main reasons: the global recession, conservatism of donors in accepting the value of a new programme, and a somewhat similar attitude in the aid co-ordination agencies of recipient countries. Nevertheless it is notable that a few countries have already demonstrated an ability to embark on survey programmes largely on the basis of their own resources.

42. The AHSCP regional supporting component at ECA has also had financial problems for much the same reasons as those at national level. When these problems became apparent in 1982, two survey specialists promptly transferred to new assignments. The difficulty was resolved with an assurance of funds for the two posts, at least through 1984, but the search for replacement experts was still continuing in May 1983.

43. The result has been a shortfall in the supporting services provided by ECA, even though other staff of the Statistics Division have taken part in the work. Participation of technical advisers from the global National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) has also been of great help. In this situation the ILO survey specialist assigned to Africa has proved invaluable.

44. A full report on AHSCP is given in the document for agenda item 6(c). Prospects are generally good but the implementation of national projects should be accelerated. It should be noted that one of the regular working groups on household surveys could not be held in 1983 for financial reasons, but every effort is being made to convene it in 1984.

45. It may be recalled that the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers had recommended that the statistics programme should incorporate a new project on environment statistics. Work on this has started and preliminary proposals are contained in the annex. It is also intended to hold a working group on the subject in 1984 but funds have not so far been secured.

Concluding comment

46. The foregoing summary report is intended as an overview of the main points which have to be considered in evaluating and revising the ECA statistical programme. It has been kept short to avoid too much duplication of what is said in other documents. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the report demonstrates a flexible approach in meeting the statistical needs of the region, while at the same time maintaining reasonable continuity in the operation of main projects.

47. Grouping of most activities in a few large projects should probably continue in the future because it not only improves their impact but also serves as a useful means of co-ordination. In any case it is necessary for projects which require extra-budgetary financing.

48. Throughout the programme, emphasis is necessarily placed on technical support to African statistical development. However, this in no way reduces the importance attached to the data base project and related publications.

49. The national accounts project, NACP, extended to cover all economic statistics, should be regarded as a counterpart to RASDS and AHSCP which constitute the Censuses and Surveys Advisory Service. These three projects, together with the training project, STPA, can cover almost all aspects of statistical development. Their

implementation should be undertaken as a joint effort of African countries and the ECA secretariat.

Programme of work and priorities 1984-1987 with projections to 1989

Questions for consideration by the Joint Conference

50. As already explained, the work programme is now presented under three sub-programmes. This does not affect the order in which projects are arranged, they are in the same order as when previously considered by the joint conference. However, project descriptions have been revised because UN Headquarters now requires the programme to be expressed in terms of final outputs. For example, the frequent references to "printouts" in the programme which appears in the next section are outputs of the statistical data base.

51. Perhaps the most difficult aspect of the work programme in its revised form is that it covers only regular budget activities. No detailed information is given on work financed from extra-budgetary sources. To overcome this deficiency, notes have been inserted at appropriate places in the programme to describe these missing elements.

52. On the basis of the report given in the first section of the present document, the joint conference is invited to consider the overall suitability of the ECA statistical programme. If it feels that there have been changes in the requirements of the region which would affect programme policy the joint conference should recommend the new approaches it considers desirable.

53. There are also some considerations relating to details of the programme and one of them is the organization of statistical meetings. When the work programme was considered by the first and second sessions of the conference, a large number of meetings were proposed. Some have poor prospects of being financed and, for others, staff will not be available for preparatory work. The revised programme therefore excludes the following nine meetings previously requested:

Working group on statistical co-ordination and management (1984)
Training workshop on the use of software packages in statistical computing (French-speaking) (1984)

Working group on the implementation of the SNA in Africa (1985)

§ Seminar on the collection of agricultural and industrial price data and related problems (1985)

Working group on the measurement of unmarketed output of industries (1984)

Seminar on economic accounts for agriculture, in collaboration with FAO(1984)

Training seminar on tourism statistics (1984)

Working group on concepts, definitions and classifications for selected demographic and social statistics fields (1984)

Second round of training on the use of statistical software packages (1985)

54. Some of these meetings are being implemented by other agencies, e.g. the US Bureau of the Census, through USAID, is doing particularly useful work on statistical software and has recently mounted English and French-speaking CONCOR workshops with ECA collaboration. The work that would be done by a few of the other meetings can be absorbed in project activities, but it is a little disappointing to lose the working group on statistical co-ordination and management because it is a topic that needs rather thorough examination, particularly in view of ECA resolution 469 (XVIII).

55. The joint conference may request re-instatement of any of the deleted meetings, or the introduction of new meetings, in place of those which appear in the work programme below. It would not be practicable to increase the total number of meetings.

56. It has also been proposed that Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa: Series B Trade by commodity and by country should be discontinued since only a few countries are now covered by that series and the relevant information can be incorporated in series D published by the UN Statistical Office.

57. Two continuing studies on the development of manufacturing in Africa and on capital output ratios have been deleted from the programme but are dealt with in the paper for agenda item 32(b).

58. It has been proposed in the first part of the present paper that work on economic statistics should be re-oriented to provide more direct assistance for individual countries in the context of an enlarged National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP). As indicated earlier, this does not call for mission travel.

Work Programme

Subprogramme 1: Statistical development

Reference: Medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (A/37/6/Rev.1), Chapter 22, paras. 22.62-22.65

Programme elements:

1.1 General aspects of co-ordination and development

Final output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the third, fourth and fifth sessions of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers (first quarter 1984, 1986, 1988),

(ii) Advisory services to member States, on request, on statistical organization (two countries in 1984 and on each year 1985-1989);

(iii) Technical publications for government statisticians and planners on:

(a) review of statistical organization problems in the region (fourth quarter 1985);
(b) assessment of the effectiveness of national statistical services (third quarter 1985);
(c) establishment of an African list of statistical priorities (fourth quarter 1985);

(iv) Sales publications:

(a) Directory of African Statisticians (one in each of the years 1984, 1986, 1988; starting date: second quarter of preceding year; delivery date: first quarter of the year);
(b) Bibliography of African Statistical publications (one in each of the years 1985, 1987, 1989; starting date: second quarter of the year; delivery date: fourth quarter of the year);
(c) Statistical Newsletter (two each year 1984-1989; second and fourth quarters; starting and delivery dates: same month);

(v) Substantive servicing of the working group on environment and natural resources statistics (fourth quarter 1984).

1.2 Statistical data base development

Final output:

(i) Technical advisory services to member States, on request, in the development and maintenance of national statistical data bases (one mission each year 1984-1989);

(ii) Printouts of integrated social, demographic and economic data (1984-1989, at least once every quarter);

(iii) Report to member States on the inventory of electronic data processing equipment and related staff resources and applications (one, fourth quarter each year, 1985, 1987, 1989);

(iv) Technical publication for government statisticians and planners on Directory of Electronic Data Processing Experts in Africa (one in each of the years 1984, 1986, 1988; starting date: second quarter of preceding year; delivery date: first quarter of the year);

(v) Substantive servicing of training workshops and seminars:

(a) Training workshop on the use of software packages in statistical computing, for English-speaking participants (1987) and French-speaking participants (1988);
(b) Training seminar on statistical data base development, for English-speaking participants (1985, 1989) and French-speaking participants (1986).

1.3 Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA)

Final output:

(i) Advisory missions to the centres for the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) encountering difficulties (in 1984-1989);

(ii) Substantive servicing of the biennial meeting of Directors of STPA centres (fourth quarter, 1985, 1987, 1989);

(iii) Report to the fourth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on a guide/syllabus for middle level courses in statistical training for Portuguese-speaking countries (second quarter, 1984);

(iv) Technical publications: Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) News (second and fourth quarters of each year), and Directory of STPA centres (second quarter, 1985, 1987, 1989)

Note: Additional continuing activities financed on an extra-budgetary basis include review of curricula and syllabuses, assessment of training needs of particular groups of countries, assistance in organising short-term courses, development of in-service training for national statistical services, provision of a training input to the African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP).

(v) Technical publications:

(a) STPA News (two each year 1984-1989; starting and delivery dates same month, second and fourth quarters of each year);

(b) Directory of STPA centres (one each year 1984,1989; starting date: fourth quarter of preceding year; delivery date: second quarter of each year).

Subprogramme 2: Economic statistics

Reference: Medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (A/37/6/Rev.1), Chapter 22, paras. 22.66-22.70.

Programme elements:

2.1 National accounts, finance and prices

Final output:

(i) Printouts on national accounts and financial statistics (two each year 1984-1989, second and fourth quarters of each year);

(ii) Printouts on current sectoral deflators for African national accounts (two each year 1984-1989, second and fourth quarters of each year);

(iii) Substantive servicing of meetings:

(a) Bilingual training course on national accounts (fourth quarter,1985);

(b) Working group on capital formation and national accounts at constant prices (1987);

(iv) Printouts and special tables of price statistics, such as price indices, producer, wholesale, export and world market prices (two each year 1984-1989, second and fourth quarters of each year),

(v) Technical publication for government planners and statisticians on the progress of the International Comparison Project (ICP) in the African region (fourth quarter 1985);

(vi) Technical publication for government statisticians and planners on guidelines for a system of price and quantity statistics (fourth quarter 1985);

(vii) Printouts and special tables on external transactions (two each year 1984-1989; first and third quarters of each year);

(viii) Printouts on public sector statistics (two each year 1984-1989; first and third quarters of each year);

(ix) Technical publication for government statisticians and planners on:

(a) comparative analysis of trends in growth and importance of the public sector (fourth quarter 1985);
(b) methodological study on rural price data collection (second quarter 1984);
(c) improvement of raw material export price indexes (third quarter 1984);

(x) Substantive servicing of a working group on input-output tables (1988).

2.2 National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP)

Final outputs

(i) Technical advisory services to member States, on request, in applying the revised UN system of national accounts (SNA); (three each year 1984-1989);

(ii) Technical publications for government statisticians and planners on the progress in the implementation of the UN system of national accounts and the uses of the statistical data in Africa (fourth quarter 1985);

(iii) Technical publications for government statisticians and planners on the progress in the implementation of the National Accounts Capability Programme (fourth quarter 1985).

Note: With the support of an extra-budgetary component, NACP is intended as a concerted effort to improve all economic statistics at the national level.

2.3 External trade statistics

Final output:

(i) Assistance to countries, on request, in improving the coverage, timeliness and methodology of national trade statistics (one country each year 1984-1989);

(ii) Printouts on national trade statistics (two each year 1984-1989; first and third quarters of each year);

(iii) Technical publications for government statisticians and planners on the survey of the current status of trade statistics, including reasons for delayed dissemination of data (fourth quarter, 1985);

(iv) Sales publications:

(a) Foreign trade statistics for Africa, Series A, direction of total trade (one each year 1984-1989; starting date: second quarter; delivery date: fourth quarter of each year);

(b) Foreign trade statistics for Africa, trade by commodity and by country, Series B (one each year 1984-1989; starting date: second quarter; delivery date: fourth quarter of each year);

(c) Foreign trade statistics for Africa, Series C, Summary tables (one each year 1984-1989; starting date: second quarter; delivery date: fourth quarter of each year).

2.4 Industrial statistics

Final output:

(i) Technical advisory services to member States, on request, in the application of the international recommendations on industrial statistics and improving the coverage and timeliness of these data (one mission each year 1984-1989);

(ii) Printouts on general industrial statistics and monthly commodity production in mining, manufacturing, electricity, gas and water, including energy balance sheets (one each year 1984-1989; third quarter of each year);

(iii) Reports to the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on the studies on:

(a) local processing of raw materials for export (fourth quarter, 1985);
(b) relationship between production and trade in African manufactured products (fourth quarter, 1985);
(c) production, domestic use and trade in industrial raw materials (fourth quarter 1985);
(d) production, consumption and exchange of energy (1986);

(iv) Substantive servicing of working groups on:

(a) energy statistics (1987);

(b) improvement of data on small scale and household industries (1989).

2.5 Other economic statistics

Final output:

(i) Printouts on:

(a) agricultural statistics (two each year 1984-1989; second and fourth quarters of each year);
(b) transport and communications statistics (two each year 1984-1989; second and fourth quarters of each year);
(c) tourism statistics (two each year 1984-1989; second and fourth quarters of each year);

(ii) Technical publications for government statisticians and planners on:

(a) development and improvement of distribution statistics, including supporting methodology (second quarter 1984);
(b) analysis of food production and imports (third quarter 1985);
(c) review of transport and communications statistics (1986);
(d) sample survey methods applied to tourism (1987);
(e) Road transport statistics (1988);

(iii) Substantive servicing of working groups on:

(a) distributive trade statistics (second quarter 1984);
(b) port statistics (sub-regional) (1987);

(iv) Sales publications:

(a) African statistical yearbook (one each year 1984-1989; starting date: first quarter; delivery date: fourth quarter of each year);
(b) African Economic Indicators (one each year 1984-1989; starting date: first quarter; delivery date: fourth quarter of each year);
(c) Statistical Information Bulletin for Africa (one each year 1984-1989; starting date: first quarter; delivery date: fourth quarter of each year).

Subprogramme 3: Censuses and surveys

Reference: Medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (A/37/6/Rev.1), Chapter 22, paras. 22.71-22.77.

Programme elements:

3.1 Demographic and social statistics

Final output:

(i) Computer printouts on demographic and social statistics (two each year 1984-1989; second and fourth quarters of each year);

(ii) Advisory services to member States, on request, in demographic and social statistics (one or two each year 1984-1989);

(iii) Substantive servicing of the intergovernmental working groups on:

(a) development of civil registration systems and vital statistics collection in Africa (third quarter 1985);
(b) possible approaches to the integration of demographic, social and related economic statistics in development planning in Africa(1986);
(c) concepts, definitions and classifications used in population censuses, demographic and social surveys in Africa (1988);

(iv) Technical publications to government statisticians and planners on:

(a) population registers in Africa and other more conventional sources of demographic statistics.(1988);
(b) further socio-economic indicators derived from household survey data (1989);

3.2 Support to technical co-operation project: Regional centre for Population Studies in Central Africa (UDEAC-CREP)

Final output:

(i) Technical publication for government statisticians and planners of UDEAC member States on the development of demographic and social statistics methodology appropriate to the UDEAC sub-region (one each year 1984-1989; fourth quarter of each year);

(ii) Substantive servicing of ad hoc meetings organized by the Regional Centre for Population Studies (UDEAC/CREP) in the fields of population censuses and civil registration - (one each year 1984-1989);

(iii) Consultations with UDEAC and UNFPA on the implementation of the technical co-operation project in demographic statistics for Central Africa (continuous throughout the period 1984-1989).

Note: Extra-budgetary funds provide for supporting services to this project within the UDEAC secretariat.

3.3 Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS)

Output:

(i) Advisory services to member States, on request, in organization, planning and conduct of national population and housing censuses; processing and evaluation of census data, and development of civil registration systems and vital statistics collection (three each year 1984-1989);

(ii) Technical publications for government statisticians and planners on:

(a) evaluation of the 1980 round of population censuses in Africa (1985);
(b) methods and problems of African population and housing censuses(1986);
(c) processing of census, civil registration and sample survey data(1987);
(d) non-sampling errors (1988);

(iii) Substantive servicing of working groups and training workshops:

(a) training workshop on the use of statistical software packages (second quarter 1984);
(b) training workshop on census-taking for French-speaking countries (third quarter 1984);
(c) working group on recommendations for the 1990 round of population and housing censuses in Africa (1986);
(d) training workshop on census-taking for English-speaking countries(1987);
(e) working group on processing of census, civil registration and sample survey data (1988).

Note: Extra-budgetary funds provide for regional advisory services in demographic statistics, civil registration, data processing and cartography which are not specified above.

3.4 African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP)

Final output:

(i) Advisory services to member States, on request, in the following areas:

(a) preparation of survey programme documents for countries requiring technical and financial assistance in the context of the global National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) (two each year 1984-1989);
(b) establishment of active survey operations (two each year 1984-1989);
(c) training and development of staff resources needed in establishing effective survey programmes (one or two projects each year(1984-1989);

(ii) Technical publications for government statisticians and planners on a study on the methodology for the collection, processing, analysis and utilization of integrated demographic, social and economic data (fourth quarter 1985, 1987);

(iii) Technical publication for government statisticians and planners on measures for the mobilization of technical and financial resources for the implementation of national household survey programmes (fourth quarter 1985, 1987);

(iv) Substantive servicing of a working group on organization, content and methodology of household surveys (fourth quarter 1985, 1987, 1989).

Note: Extra-budgetary funds provide for specialist advisory services in survey design and implementation and data processing which are not specified in (i) above. These resources also contribute to the development of survey methodology.

Development of environment statistics in Africa

Introduction

1. The subject of environmental deterioration had mainly been thought of in the past as a concern of developed countries whose industrialisation had brought in its wake problems such as pollution. It was in the 1960's that attention was turned to the question of obtaining data to describe the environment. However, no full-scale meeting on environment statistics was held before 1973 when the Economic Commission for Europe convened one. By the end of the 1970's environment statistics had become the concern of both the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Statistical Office and other intergovernmental organizations. The International Statistical Institute (ISI) at its 42nd session in Manila, Philipines in 1979 devoted a formal meeting to this topic at which the following papers were presented:

(a) Conceptual frameworks and a unified approach to environmental statistics - Tony Friend (Statistics Canada);

(b) Environment data: a tool for environmental assessment and management in developing countries - P. Bartelmus (UNEP);

(c) Some considerations on the definition and estimation of environment quality parameters - T. Polfeldt (National Central Bureau of Statistics, Sweden);

(d) Environment Statistics and the National Accounts - D.W. Blades (UN Statistical Office).

2. In the African region, the first workshop on Natural Resources and Environment Statistics was held in Nairobi from 25-29 January 1982. It was attended by representatives from the following English-speaking countries: Arab Republic of Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, **Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.**

3. The workshop "recommended that each country:

(a) identifies, classifies and ranks environmental problems within a comprehensive framework for environmental statistics and resource accounting;

(b) where adequate institutional and manpower capabilities are lacking, these should be developed to facilitate the achievement of these recommendations;

(c) evolve appropriate mechanism for the application of remote sensing data analysis for statistical purposes;

(d) initiate an inter-agency programme to identify a suitable set of environmental/ecological indicators, for the purpose of monitoring environmental conditions and trends;

(e) undertake the compilation of existing data for the purpose of producing a "Compendium of Environmental and Natural Resource Statistics".

The workshop members further recommended that at the International level:

(f) regional exchange of experience be initiated in the field of environment and natural resources. (It was proposed here that ECA and UNSO integrate recommendations (f) into their long term statistical development programmes);

(g) establish training courses in this new field under the auspices of the ECA Statistical Training Programme for Africa".

The scope of environment statistics

4. In the UN Framework for environment statistics as amended by the Expert Group on Environment Statistics (New York, 20-24 September, 1982, and further modified by ECA the following structure and contents are proposed:

(a) Natural Environment

(i) Flora
(ii) Fauna
(iii) Air and climate
(iv) Water (Fresh)
(v) Land/soil
- Surface
- Sub-surface (incl. submerged land and marine sub-soil)
(vi) Marine
- Coastal
- Open sea

(b) Human settlements

(i) Working environment
(ii) Housing
(iii) Recreation and culture
(iv) Infrastructure
(v) Health and sanitation

(c) Ecosystems

(i) Forests and woodlands
(ii) Montane
(iii) Freshwater aquatic
(iv) Coastal & islands
(v) Arid and semi-arid
(vi) Arctic and antarctic

(d) Development activities

(i) Industries (environment)
(ii) Transportation/environment
(iii) Energy
(iv) Mining
(v) Agriculture/environment, etc.

5. In addition, these are the following derived environmental topics: energy; pollution (air, water and soil pollution; soil wastes, biochemicals and other toxic chemicals, radiation and noise), natural disasters (floods, earthquakes, storms, droughts, fires, avalanches, volcanic activity, land slides etc), environmental health and environmental management.

6. The list of areas and derived topics in paragraphs 4 and 5 should be supplemented with a list of indicators which would for each field adequately describe the nature of the environment and also highlight specific areas of environmental concern relating to the country. It may be noted that international organizations have over the past few years identified five core areas in the above framework to which attention especially in the developing countries should be focussed: human settlements, land, natural resources, energy and health and sanitation. For countries starting to organise their environment statistics in a systematic manner for the first time, these five areas could serve as a starting point.

Conceptual frame-work

7. Tony Friend in his paper referred to in paragraph 1 above reviews two types of conceptual frameworks - the Material - Energy Balance Statistical System (MEBSS) and the Stress-Response Environmental Statistical System (SRESS). The former is a formal accounting structure based on material-energy balance accounts while the latter which is derived from the stress-response principle implies the maintenance of time series data describing the transformation of the environment. The African region does not appear to have found accounting systems very attractive. The problems encountered in the application of the UN System of National Accounts (SNA) in the region, the very few countries which have applied the Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) and the reservations by many countries about the introduction of the System for Social and Demographic Statistics (SSDS) all suggest that a formal accounting structure as the conceptual basis for developing natural resources and environment statistics in the region would not be popular. At this stage, therefore, emphasis will have to be placed on the stress-response approach.

Data collection methods

8. There are four main methods by which data on the environment can be collected, namely, interview, mail, use of administrative records and laboratory tests. Some of the data on fauna, flora and human settlements can be obtained as part of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) and national population, housing and agricultural censuses. The information can be collected through interviews at the cartographic, penultimate or ultimate stages of such field surveys, the choice of stage being determined by the nature of the information required.

9. The second approach using mail questionnaires would imply the inclusion of relevant questions in the questionnaires normally sent, say to industrial establishments in connection with industrial censuses and surveys. In certain cases, specially designed questionnaires can be sent to a target group of industrial, commercial and construction establishments. Unfortunately the use of mail questionnaires in Africa has not been very successful since in general the response rate has been low. In most cases, this approach has been followed by subsequent visits by interviewers.

10. The third data collection mechanism is the use of administrative records. Many government regulatory and other agencies maintain records as part of their normal work. Thus, for example the meteorological department may maintain climatic records (rainfall, temperature, pressure, wind direction, etc) which could serve as a source of general meteorological information required to build up statistical data for various environmental categories, e.g. flora, air and climate, water and ecosystems. These records can then be consulted by the statistician to obtain the relevant data. It should be noted that such records do not involve use of interviewers or mail questionnaires but rather direct measurement by agency staff.

11. The fourth source of data is the record of specific tests which may be carried out at the request of the agency with major responsibility for the environment. In this respect the only difference between the third and fourth approaches is that the latter involves laboratory tests specifically designed to test an environmental quality e.g. the level of pollution and the third involves only simple and routine measurement.

Institutional sources

12. There are many institutional sources of natural resources and environment statistics. In this region, these include the national statistical office and the Ministries of Agriculture, Water Development and Works. The Directory of Country Practices for Kenya which was circulated to all directors of National Statistical Offices in June 1982 contained a long list of government and other national agencies which are actual or potential sources of environment statistics.

13. A few examples of the types of information which can be obtained from government agencies are given below for illustrative purposes only:

Central Statistical Office: demographic factors (population growth, migration and spatial distribution); consumption patterns of forest and animal products, housing and its environment; economic trends (urbanization; industrialization; transportation); economic factors (production/consumption pattern, poverty, distribution of income and wealth); labour market structure.

Ministry of Agriculture: land area by vegetation; distribution and type of cultivated area; agricultural holdings; inventory/stocks of species (fauna and flora), land tenure/ownership; area distribution of agricultural establishments.

Meteorological Department: general meteorological information (temperature, rainfall, wind direction, evaporation, climate/weather patterns).

Ministry of Water Development: water cycle; geographical distribution of water resources; water balances (availability and demand for use of surface, ground and other water); water utilities (hydro-power stations, water works and treatment plants); distribution of water users (commercial and non-commercial);

Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife: Inventory of indangered species; protected areas and national parks; land use patterns (protected, recreational areas); inventory of recreational and cultural facilities; tourism.

14. The above illustration which tries to relate a few typical ministries in Africa to the basic data requirements as identified in the United Nations Framework for Environment Statistics has been given to demonstrate that various government agencies in the region already hold large stocks of valuable environment data which can be organized systematically in the form of environment statistics.

15. It should be noted as demonstrated in the above example that environment statistics cuts accross other fields of statistics. Thus basic data and indicators may be obtained from these fields and should not necessarily be a separate data collection activity. In countries which have or are thinking of developing a statistical data bank, therefore, the requirements of environment statistics can be met partly from data stored for other purposes. This multisectoral nature of environment statistics should be taken into account when initiating work in this area.

Priority Areas and Resource Needs

16. It is difficult in a region as diverse as Africa to define one set of priority areas in which the development of environment statistics should initially be confined. This paper does not attempt to do so. Instead it is recommended that African countries should first define their areas of environment concerns and try to obtain the basic data which will help them to identify problem areas and monitor trends in these areas. The five core areas identified in paragraph 6 namely: human settlements, land, natural resources, energy and pollution could serve as a starting point.

17. An inventory of available sources of data and the assessment of the manpower situation would also serve to identify whether these are adequate. In case this is not so, programmes to develop institutional and manpower capabilities as recommended by the Nairobi workshop should be initiated. In this context, training workshops within the African region should be given priority.

18. In paragraph 3, mention was made of the recommendations of the Nairobi workshop that training courses in environment statistics should be established under the auspices of the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA). It may be recalled that prior to the Nairobi meeting, the secretariat had presented a paper on "New areas of Statistical Development (E/CN14/STPA/4)" to the first meeting of Directors of STPA centres (Addis Ababa, 22-26 October 1979). The paper dealt inter alia with the inclusion of environment statistics in the curriculum of professional training at STPA centres. It was recognised then, that the availability of suitable texts and teachers may prove an obstacle to the immediate implementation of the recommendation by the secretariat to cover the subject at these centres. There is, therefore, need to prepare suitable training material and also to train the trainers at STPA centres adequately in this area. ECA will tackle the problem when it prepares the "Guide Syllabus for professional training".

Conclusions

19. In this short paper an attempt has been made to identify the main areas of concern in an environment statistics programme. In most African countries a lot of data in this field exists but not much has been done to systematise the information into a conceptual framework. As a first step, countries are urged to organize existing data more systematically. The next step is to identify gaps in the data available. Most studies in the region have identified an "imbalance between economic-geographical statistics on the one hand and economic data on the other". This imbalance has to be redressed in the context of a clear identification and description of problems relevant to the country.

20. Each national statistical office should have a natural resources and environment statistics unit. Such a unit should work very closely not only with the overall national environment protection agency but with government regulatory and other agencies in order to build up the relevant basic statistics and indicators and ultimately a data bank which can be used for building up a time series of data which can be used to describe changes in the environment. Such data is useful not only for planning purposes but also to monitor any environmental degradation so that the necessary remedial action can be taken.

21. Substantial support from international and bilateral agencies will be required to prepare guidelines and to assist in staff training. Reference has been made earlier to the need for training workshops. These are necessary since the field is relatively new in Africa and the necessary expertise does not at present exist in many countries. In this area of activity, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Data for Development International Association and the United Nations Statistical Office should be the lead agencies. ECA should be assisted to provide technical assistance to member States which want to establish or improve and expand their environment statistics units.

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
LIMITED

E/ECA/PSD.3/84/Add.1
14 December 1983

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Third session of the Joint Conference of
African Planners, Statisticians and
Demographers

Addis Ababa, 5-14 March 1984

REPORT ON ECA STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES 1982-1983 AND work programme 1984-1987 WITH PROJECTIONS TO 1989

ECA Statistics Division

Summary of posts 15 December 1983

	Professional		General Service: Statistical		General Service: Secretarial	
	RB	XB	RB	XB	RB	XB
Office of Chief	1				1	
Censuses and Surveys Advisory Service	1				1	
Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS)		6		1		3
African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP)		4 1/				
General Economic Statistics Section	5		7		2	
National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP)	1	1 2/				1
Demographic and Social Statistics Section	2		2		1	
Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA)		3 3/				3
UDEAC-CREP project		2				1
Data Bank	3		4		1	
Total	13	15	13	1	6	8
Total (RB plus XB)	28		14		14	

1/ Three AHSCP posts are vacant because it is necessary to replace two survey specialists who were lost during a UNDP funding problem in 1982. Two candidates are under recruitment. The Federal Republic of Germany has not yet provided a candidate for its data processing post. The fourth post is provided by ILO.

2/ The second NACP post is vacant because France has not yet been able to find a suitable candidate.

3/ One STPA post could not be filled immediately because funds had been transferred from this project to partially rectify the AHSCP financing problem indicated in 1. A candidate is now being recruited to fill the vacant post.

4/ The net staffing position is 23 out of 28 professional posts filled and all general service posts filled. For details of professional staff, see attached list.

Table II

ECA Statistics Division

Professional staff 15 December 1983

Office of Chief		
Chief	W. L. Booker (UK)	RB
Censuses and Surveys Advisory Service		
Deputy Chief of the Division	K. T. de Graft-Johnson (Ghana)	RB
Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS)		
Demographic statistics	E. A. Colecraft (Ghana)	UNFPA
	H. Sow (Mali)	UNFPA
Data processing	D.E. Benzine (Algeria)	UNFPA
Cartography	R. Hare (UK)	UNFPA
	O. Bocoum (Mali)	UNFPA
Civil registration	K. Diop (Senegal)	UNFPA
African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP)		
Household survey specialist	A. C. Basu (India)	ILO
	Vacant	UNDP
	Vacant	UNDP
Data processing	Vacant	FR of Germany
General Economic Statistics Section		
Chief	A.E.F. Cummings-Palmer (Sierra Leone)	RB
National Accounts	M. Tlale (Ms) (Botswana)	RB
	R. Rakotobe (Madagascar)	RB
Industrial Statistics	A. K. Amelewonou (Togo)	RB
Price Statistics	Vacant	RB

National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP)		
Chief of Technical Adviser	K.N.C. [illegible]llai (India)	RB
Second specialist	Vacant	France
Demographic and Social Statistics Section		
Chief	R. M. Andrianasolo (Madagascar)	RB
Demographic Statistics	T. Makannah (Sierra Leone)	RB
Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA)		
Statistical Training Advisers	K. Bockor (Togo)	UNDP
	Vacant	UNDP
UDEAC-CREP project		
Chief Technical Adviser	A. Simonpietri (France)	UNFPA
Associate expert	A. Mayouya (Congo)	Denmark
Data Bank		
Chief	M. Fall (Senegal)	RB
Statistician	D. Kouassi (Central African Republic)	RB
Statistician-programmer	Zewdie Gebeyehu (Ethiopia)	RB

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.:
LIMITED

E/ECA/PSD.3/25
17 October 1983

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers

Addis Ababa, 5 - 14 March 1984

THE AFRICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION (AFSA)

Table of contents

The African Statistical Association (AFSA)

Annex I: Introduction

Annex II: Constitution of the African Statistical Association

Annex III: African Statistical Association - Rules of procedure

THE AFRICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION (AFSA)

The Second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers appointed a committee of three persons to make proposals for the revival of the Association of African Statisticians. The report of the committee, the proposed constitution of the association and its rules of procedure are attached as Annexes I, II and III.

Introduction

1. At the second session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, the history of the Association of African Statisticians (AAS) and the reasons for its inability to develop into a viable institution were examined. A small committee comprising Mr. Mitik Bayene, Manager of the Ethiopian Central Statistical Office, Mr. K.T. de Graft-Johnson, Deputy Chief, ECA Statistics Division and Mr. P. Andrianasolo, Chief, Demographic and Social Statistics Section, ECA Statistics Division, was set up to make arrangements for the revival of the Association before the next meeting of the Joint Conference in 1984. As stated in the report of the second Joint Conference, the committee was expected inter alia to deal with:

(a) finance, e.g., how a permanent secretariat should be supported;

(b) high turnover among statisticians, especially those holding high positions and its effect on membership;

(c) role of national statistical associations in AAS; and

(d) payment of subscriptions and type of currency to be used.

The committee met and agreed on the following steps:

(i) A preliminary enrolment form will be distributed to all African professional statisticians and other nationals working in Africa;

(ii) A draft constitution will be prepared and circulated to all those who have completed the preliminary enrolment form for their comments and a final indication as to whether they wish to become members of the revived African Statistical Association (AFSA);

(iii) The draft constitution will then be finalized by the small committee taking into account the comments received;

(iv) A postal vote to approve the constitution will then be taken;

(v) The committee will act as a Nomination Committee which will propose candidates for the officers and Council of the AFSA;

(vi) The names of the persons nominated by the committee will then be communicated to the Joint Conference which may also wish to nominate additional candidates;

(vii) Other members can also propose alternative candidates in the manner prescribed in the constitution;

(viii) There will be a postal vote for the officers and members of the Council of the AFSA.

2. Preliminary enrolment forms were sent out in August 1982. So far about 400 forms have been completed and sent back to ECA. Those who completed the enrolment forms can be regarded as prospective members.

3. A draft constitution had also been prepared and forwarded to all persons who had completed the preliminary enrolment form for them to propose any amendment that they wish to make. As soon as these comments were received, the constitution was revised. Annex II is a copy of the revised draft constitution.

Draft Constitution

4. As indicated in the previous section, the draft constitution was circulated to prospective members of the Association and a number of comments was received from them. These related to the name and membership of the Association, the president-elect and the functions of the Secretary General. It was pointed out by some members that the name "Association of African Statisticians" was inconsistent with the provision that members could be non-Africans and therefore either non-Africans should be excluded from membership or the name should be changed. The Committee examined this proposal thoroughly and decided that since it was essential to have in the Association non-Africans who work or have worked as statisticians in Africa, it was better to change the name to the African Statistical Association which did not imply the exclusion of non-Africans from membership. The Association however will be mainly for African statisticians and there should not be any fear that non-Africans would have a controlling interest in it.

5. The second issue related to the office of president-elect. Some members did not see the need for having a president-elect and preferred to have all officers elected at the same time. The Committee examined this question and took into account that it is now a convention for all international associations of repute to have the post of president-elect, e.g. the International Statistical Institute, the International Association of Survey Statisticians, the International Association of Statistical Computing, the Bernouilli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability, the International Association for Regional and Urban Statisticians and the American Statistical Association, all have established the post of president-elect. This ensures some form of continuity from one term of office to the next. It also implies that when a president-elect is being elected, members have to bear in mind that he will automatically be the next president and thus care has to be exercised in his selection. The Committee therefore decided to keep the post of president-elect.

6. Another question which was raised was the Office of Treasurer for which no separate provisions had been made in the draft constitution. It was the intention of the Committee that the Secretary-General should carry out the functions of Treasurer subject of course to auditing. In order to remove any ambiguity in the text of the constitution therefore the Committee has proposed the establishment of the office of the Secretary-General and Treasurer.

The administrative and financial secretariat

7. The Committee had a thorough discussion of this subject and decided that interim arrangements should be made for the functions of the administrative and financial secretariat to be carried out by the ECA Statistics Division but in such a way that the resources of the Association will be completely separate from those of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. The Committee also agreed to propose to the Joint Conference that it will be preferable for a host national statistical office or other statistical institution to offer to provide accommodation and other services for the

administrative and financial secretariat. It may be recalled that such services have been provided by the Netherlands Statistical Office for the International Statistical Institute and by ENSEE for the International Association of Survey Statisticians. A similar arrangement by the Association and a host institution will be in the best interests of the statisticians in the African region. The Joint Conference is therefore invited to discuss this issue and to solicit offers of host facilities for the Association from national statistical offices and other statistical institutions within the African region. It should however be noted that the Government in the country in which such institution is situated will need to clear these arrangements since there are certain privileges which should be attached to the international association.

8. The constitution and rules of procedure as proposed by the committee taking into account the comments of prospective members are attached. In preparing these, the statutes and bylaws of the International Statistical Institute were consulted. The Rules of Procedures are largely based on the latter.

High turn-over among statisticians

9. The Committee had been asked in its terms of reference to examine the high turn-over among statisticians and to assess especially the effect on membership of the association of this high turn-over among those holding high positions. The Committee examined this question but noted that since the Association was mainly one of individual members and not an association of statistical institutions, a change in the designation of a member should not necessarily have an adverse effect on the association since the member can in his new position continue to contribute to the success of the work of the Association. The committee also decided that in order to reflect the individual nature of the membership of the Association all officers to be elected should come from the different statistical disciplines and not be confined to the field of official statistics.

Role of national statistical associations in the Association

10. The committee examined thoroughly the role which national associations can play in the Association. The committee decided that one of the objectives of the African Statistical Association should be to encourage the establishment of national statistical associations. This objective has been duly incorporated in article 2 of the constitution. It also decided that national statistical associations should be admitted as institutional members of the association.

11. In this connexion it should be borne in mind that the development of national statistical associations will have an important role to play in the integration of statistics at the national level. This will help also to establish a regular dialogue between the producers of statistics and user institutions in individual countries since most of the user institutions also employ statisticians to help them to interpret statistical data. National associations therefore can encourage the specification of applications in the field of statistics and thus help in defining the types of analysis needed to satisfy these applications. These national associations in turn can also act as recruitment agents for the association and thus help it to develope in a healthy and satisfactory way.

Payment of subscriptions

12. The committee examined the current economic situation in the African countries, foreign exchange restrictions which are maintained in most of them and the effects of these on the payment of subscriptions. It also examined proposals which have been made for solving these problems in other international organizations. These proposals have included the use of UNESCO coupons in those countries where members may have no ready access to foreign exchange or international money order facilities. It was however pointed out that although the possibility exists for the use of UNESCO coupons, most Africans have found it difficult to make use of it for payment of subscriptions to international organizations and that this difficulty will be encountered by the members of the association. Another approach was to designate certain zones, say in the ECOWAS countries, where payment could be made in one currency and kept in a national "sub-regional" office of the association so that when the amount reaches a certain level it can be used for an activity within the sub-region. This has been tried with Eastern European countries but it has not been very successful.

13. In view of these difficulties the committee was not able to reach a concensus on this issue but recommended that initially membership dues of only US$5 should be charged for members and the question of how this fee is to be paid should be examined at the Joint Conference.

Nominations for Council

14. The following are nominated for the offices indicated below. For each office, there are two nominations. The consent of those involved has not been sought. This will be done as soon as the Joint Conference approves the report of the committee and the list of nominees for office:

President:	B. Afonja (Nigeria) or L. Diop (Senegal)
President-elect:	C. Miéressa (Congo) or L.B. Monyake (Lesotho)
Vice-President:	
North Africa	Tadili Faris (Morocco) or Omer El Tay (Sudan)
West Africa	S.I.K. Odoom (Ghana) or Denis Traore (Mali)
Central Africa	M. Baleba (Cameroon) or Clement Enegani (C.A.R.)
East and Southern Africa	T.A. Rabetsitonta or D.J. Mzite (Zimbabwe) (Madagascar)
Secretary-General and Treasurer	Mitik Weyene (Ethiopia) or Ousmane Balde (Guinea)
Editor-in-chief	Tona Makannah (Sierra Leone) or A. Amelewonou (Togo)
Auditors:	Mpoyi Nankonda (Zaire) or B. Kiregyira (Uganda)

15. The Joint Conference is invited to approve or amend the above list, taking into account both language and geographical distribution.

Conclusion

16. This brief report summarises the various proposals to reactivate the association. The question of payment of dues has been referred to the Joint Conference for further discussion. The committee proposes that the Joint Conference should also approve the constitution of the association to enable it to start functioning with effect from 15 March 1964, with the Statistics Division of ECA providing initial supporting services.

CONSTITUTION OF THE AFRICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

TITLE I

PURPOSES AND COMPOSITION

ARTICLE 1

Name

The African Statistical Association (AFSA), hereinafter called the "Association", was established in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in March 1984.

ARTICLE 2

Objectives

The objectives of the Association shall be:

(a) To promote the development of both pure and applied statistics in the African region.

(b) To ensure the more effective contribution of statistics and enhance its usefulness, particularly to administration, policy formulation, planning for socio-economic development and research

(c) To provide the opportunity for the exchange of ideas and experience among statisticians

(d) To foster the professional status of statisticians

(e) To promote methodological and substantive research in the fields of statistics

(f) To encourage the establishment of national statistical associations

(g) To establish and maintain links with national and international statistical association.

ARTICLE 3

Headquarters

The headquarters of the Association shall be provisionally located at the office responsible for statistics in the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa.

The activities, assets and liabilities of the Association shall be separate from those of the office in which its headquarters is located.

ARTICLE 4

Membership

The Association shall be composed of ordinary, honorary and institutional members whose applications have been accepted by the Council. All ordinary members have the right to vote.

Ordinary Members

Professional statisticians, African and non-African, who work or have worked as statisticians in Africa may be admitted as ordinary members.

Honorary Members

Persons of outstanding distinction in the field of statistics, who have rendered valuable services to Africa, may be admitted as honorary members.

Institutional Members

Institutions such as national and international statistical associations and agencies operating in Africa, African banks, African national institutes and academies of science may be admitted as institutional members.

ARTICLE 5

Dues

Ordinary and institutional members are required to pay such annual dues as are determined by the Council and approved by a simple majority of members voting either in a General Assembly or by postal ballot. The modalities for the payment of dues are stated in the Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE 6

Termination of Membership

Membership may be terminated by:

Resignation

Death

Non-payment of dues for a specified period as fixed by the Council, or expulsion by decision of the General Assembly

TITLE II

ORGANIZATION AND POWERS

Organs

The organs of the Association shall comprise:

The General Assembly

The Council

The Executive Committee

The Administrative and Financial Secretariat

ARTICLE 9

The General Assembly

The General Assembly of the Association shall be constituted by ordinary, honorary and institutional members convened by the Secretary-General and Treasurer of the Association after consultation with the President or as provided for in the Rules of Procedure of the Association. The General Assembly shall approve the general policies and recommendations of the Council for implementation by the Executive Committee. The General Assembly shall be held at least once every two years. In case it is not possible to hold a full General Meeting during the two year period, proposals which would otherwise have been submitted to the General Assembly will be submitted for a postal ballot.

Extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly may be convened on the initiative of the Council or if a group of at least fifty ordinary members so request. The procedure for convening such meetings shall be as specified in the Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE 9

The Council

The affairs of the Association shall be directed by a Council. The Council shall comprise:

The President

The President-elect

Four vice-presidents

The Secretary-General and Treasurer

The Editor-in-chief of the Journal of African Statistical Association (JASA)

Not more than four other members

The Association shall be represented by its President or his representative In the absence of the President, the President-elect shall of right assume all the functions of the President.

The Council will meet once every two years to review the activities of the last 2 years, formulate the work programme and approve the budget for the following 2 years.

Extraordinary sessions of the Council may be convened by the President to examine urgent questions relating to the Association.

The Council may organize a postal ballot of members as it thinks fit, provided that at least 30 days elapse between the date on which the Council dispatches to members the announcement of the vote and the date on which the ballots are counted.

ARTICLE 10

The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will comprise the President, the President-elect, the Secretary-General and Treasurer and the Editor-in-chief of the Association. It shall be responsible for:

(a) The implementation of the work programme of the Association,

(b) Determining the working procedures of the various services of the Association,

(c) Preparing the budget for the Association and submitting it to the Council for approval,

(d) Determining the provisional agenda for Council and General Assembly meetings,

(e) Taking such actions as appropriate and necessary for the proper functioning of the Association.

The Executive Committee will meet once a year. Extraordinary sessions may be convened as required.

ARTICLE 11

The Administrative and Financial Secretariat

The day to day activities of the Association shall be carried out by an Administrative and Financial Secretariat under an Executive Secretary who will be appointed by the Council of the Association. The composition of the secretariat will be determined by the Council on the advice of the Executive Secretary. Until the finances of the Association permit full-time or part-time staff of the Administrative and Financial Secretariat to be appointed, the Statistics Division of ECA will carry out the functions of the secretariat.

ARTICLE 12

The Auditors

The accounts of the Association shall be audited annually by the auditors appointed by the General Assembly as specified in the Rules of Procedure. The appointment of the auditors may also be made by members through a postal ballot.

ARTICLE 13

Tenure of Office

The terms of office within the Council shall be as follows:

President: The term of office of the President shall be two years.

President-elect: The President-elect shall serve in that capacity for a period of two years, after which he shall automatically become President. A new President-elect shall then be elected.

Vice-President: The term of office of the Vice-President shall be two years.

Secretary General and Treasurer, Editor-in-chief and other members of the Board: The terms of office of the Secretary-General and Treasurer, the Editor-in-chief and other members of the Council shall be two years.

Except for the President and President-elect, members of the Council may be re-elected, provided that they do not hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

The Council shall have the power to fill any vacancies in the Council that may be re-elected, provided that they do not hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

The Council shall have the power to fill any vacancies on the Council that may arise during its term of office.

ARTICLE 14

Elections

Elections of members of the Council shall be held at the Ordinary General Assembly of the Association or by postal ballot. Candidates may be nominated either by the Nominations Committee set up by the Council or by ordinary members in the manner prescribed in the Rules of Procedure. Nominations must be despatched in time to reach the Executive Secretary at least 90 days before the announced date for the meeting of the Ordinary General Assembly or the despatch of the postal ballot forms. For each office, at least two candidates must be nominated. The names of the candidates shall be sent to all members at least 60 days before the date set for the General Assembly. Election shall be by a simple majority of votes cast. Those to be elected must be ordinary members of the Association.

ARTICLE 15

Rules of Procedure

The Rules of Procedure of the Association are attached to the present Constitution. The Council may propose amendments thereto and apply such amendments provisionally between sessions of the Ordinary General Assembly.

The Rules of Procedure and amendments thereto shall be submitted for the approval of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 16

Working Languages

The working languages of the Association shall be English and French.

TITLE III

RESOURCES AND EXPENDITURE

ARTICLE 17

Resources

The Resources of the Association shall comprise:

- Dues,
- Proceeds from the Association's activities, and
- Subsidies, Gifts and other resources negotiated or accepted by the Council.

ARTICLE 18

Expenditure

Expenditure shall be authorized by the Executive.

The Executive Secretary shall keep accounts of receipts and expenditure. Such accounts shall be held at the disposal of the auditors and the members of the Council. Any member of the Association may inspect the accounting records of the Association.

TITLE IV

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 19

Amendments to Constitution

Amendments to the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure may be proposed either by the Council or by no less than twelve members whose proposal is despatched in time to reach the Council at least 90 days before the date fixed for an ordinary General Assembly. All such proposals must be brought to the notice of the members of the Association by a communication from the Council despatched at least 60 days before the date fixed for the meeting. Proposals receiving a two-thirds majority of the votes cast shall be carried.

ARTICLE 20

Affiliation

The Association may make the necessary arrangements for affiliation to the International Statistical Institute, whose seat is at the Hague, or to any other international association of statisticians. A scientific organization which consists mainly of individual members and does not exist for profit may become affiliated to the Association upon approval by the Council if it substantially furthers the objectives of the Association and is either a national or international organization in the African region or a national or international organization outside Africa but which is devoted primarily to the improvement of African statistics.

ARTICLE 21

Dissolution

The dissolution of the Association may be decided by the General Assembly or by postal ballot for reasons of expediency. In that event, the property, funds and records of the Association shall be assigned to the International Statistical Institute, the Hague, or to any other similar scientific association designated by name in the decision, which agrees to accept such responsibility. Such assignment must be made within the three months following dissolution of the Association.

TITLE V

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 22

The time limits prescribed in Article 14 shall not apply to the election of the first Council, which shall be held at the first session of the ordinary General Assembly or by postal ballot.

ARTICLE 23

As an interim measure, the ad hoc committee appointed by the second joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers will carry out the functions entrusted to the Nominations Committee as far as the first elections are concerned.

AFRICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. ORGANIZATION

1.1 Organs

The Association's principal organs shall be:

(a) The General Assembly

(b) The Council

(c) The Executive Committee

(d) The Administrative and Financial Secretariat

1.2. Composition and functions of the General Assembly

(a) The General Assembly shall be composed of ordinary, honorary and institutional members.

(b) The governance of the Association, as regards both its administration and its scientific affairs, is vested in the General Assembly which may convene in ordinary and extraordinary sessions.

(c) The Association's ordinary sessions shall usually be held in alternate years. At each ordinary session the General Assembly will draw up a scheme for the time and place of future ordinary sessions. At the following ordinary session the General Assembly may, however, revise the scheme so far as future sessions are concerned. However, the Council may alter the time and place of a session if an emergency makes such a change desirable. If at least one and one-half years have elapsed since the preceding ordinary session, any session of the Association must be an ordinary session.

(d) In case for financial and other reasons an ordinary session can be convened, all proposals which would otherwise have been submitted to the General Assembly shall be submitted to members by mail.

(e) Decisions by the General Assembly may be taken either through personal vote at the ordinary sessions and, if so stated in the Rules of Procedure, at the extraordinary sessions, or through mail vote.

1.3 Composition and functions of the Council

(a) The Council shall be composed of

the Officers of the Association namely, the President, the President-elect, the Secretary-General and Treasurer, and the Editor-in-chief;

the four Vice-Presidents;

other members, not exceeding four in number elected by the Association. In addition, the Chief of the ECA Statistics Division may be co-opted as an ex-officio member.

(b) The Council shall formulate the policies and programmes of the Association in accordance with the guidelines established by the General Assembly.

(c) The Council shall make decisions as to the meaning of any part of the constitution and Rules of Procedure concerning which there is a conflict of opinion.

(d) The Council shall appoint a committee of at least five ordinary members of the Association to nominate Officers of the Association, the Vice-Presidents and elected members of the Council.

(e) The Council is authorized to admit as institutional members national and international statistical agencies and such cultural, educational and scientific institutions, and commercial, industrial or business enterprises, that, in the opinion of the Council, may substantially contribute to the aims of the Association.

(f) The Council may establish committees in the work of which non-members of the Association may be invited to participate.

(g) The Council may admit scientific organizations as affiliated to the Association in the manner prescribed in Article 20.

(h) The Council shall meet at each session of the Association and on such other occasions as convened by the President. A quorum shall be formed if at least 2 Vice-Presidents, 2 elected members and 3 Officers are present. The Council may reach its decisions by correspondence whenever it deems this to be expedient.

(i) Except as otherwise provided by the Constitution

(i) action by the Council shall be by simple majority of the votes cast;

(ii) in the event of a tie, the presiding officer shall have a casting vote, in addition to his ordinary vote.

1.4 Composition and functions of the Executive Committee

(a) The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Association's Officers. The Officers shall be the President, the President-elect, the Secretary-General and Treasurer and the Editor-in-chief of the Association. The Executive Secretary shall be in attendance.

(b) The Executive Committee directs the Association in conformity with the Constitution and Rules of Procedure and guidelines of the General Assembly and the Council. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to see that sufficient guidance is given to the Administrative and Financial Secretariat so that actual operations reflect the general orientations given by the General Assembly and the Governing Council.

(c) The Executive Committee shall appoint the Executive Secretary of the Administrative and Financial Secretariat and fix the compensations of the Executive Secretary and other personnel of the Administrative and Financial secretariat.

(d) The Executive Committee shall make, in co-operation with an organizing committee in the host country, the arrangements for each session of the Association.

(e) The Executive Committee may invite persons who are not members of the Association to participate in any specified session of the Association. Such persons shall have the privilege of attendance at and participation in scientific discussions without voting.

(f) The Executive Committee shall meet on call of the President or of three of its members. Three of its members shall be a quorum. The Executive Committee may reach its decisions by correspondence whenever it deems this to be expedient.

(g) The President, subject to the decisions of the General Assembly or of the Council, shall have general responsibility for the execution of the policies and decisions of these bodies. He shall preside over meetings of the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Committee. The President shall have the authority to exercise any functions prescribed for the Executive Committee if unforseen circumstances make such action necessary; but he shall promptly notify the Executive Committee of the action taken and the circumstances which necessitated it.

(h) The President may designate each of the members of the Executive Committee to be in charge of the supervision of specific administrative or scientific activities of the Association; he shall in any case designate a member, with the task of co-ordinating the scientific programme of the sessions and another member to facilitate liaison between the Executive Committee and the Administrative and Financial secretariat.

(i) In the event that the Presidency is vacant or that the President is for any reason unable to fulfil his responsibilities, the President-elect shall be Acting President until the President shall again be able to serve, or until the term of office of the President shall be completed. If for any reason the President-elect is unable to fulfil these responsibilities, a Vice-President shall be Acting President in his place. Solely for this purpose, (i) the order of the Vice-Presidents shall be determined by the total length of time which each has served in the Executive Committee; and (ii) as between any two or more Vice Presidents having equal length of such service, the order shall be determined by the total length of time which each has been a member of the Association; or (iii) in case there are two or more Vice-Presidents having equal length of service and equal length of membership, age shall be the determining factor, the oldest of the Vice-Presidents being the preferred candidate.

(j) The Executive Committee shall submit to the General Assembly at each ordinary session of the Association a report of the Association's activities since the previous such report and a proposed programme of work for the immediate future.

1.5 Composition and functions of the Administrative and Financial secretariat

(a) The Administrative and Financial secretariat shall have an Executive Secretary and such subordinates as the Executive Committee shall authorize him to employ. The Executive Secretary shall be the Head of the Administrative and Financial secretariat and act as Secretary of the Association.

(b) The Administrative and Financial secretariat shall be located at the headquarters of the Association. Under the supervision of the Executive Committee, the Executive Secretary shall be in charge of the administrative and scientific activities of the Association. No person shall simultaneously be Executive Secretary and a member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary need not be a member of the Association.

(c) Subject to the direction of the Executive Committee, the Secretary shall record or have recorded the minutes of sessions of the Association and of meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee, issue or have issued all notices of such sessions and meetings and receive, have custody of and disburse the Association's funds under the direction of the Secretary-General and Treasurer.

2. FINANCE

2.1 Administrative of Finance

The financial affairs of the Association shall be administered by the Secretary-General and Treasurer who shall work in close collaboration with the President and under the general direction of the Executive Committee. The Secretary-General and Treasurer will be assisted in his duties by the Executive Secretary. The President shall authorize all expenditures.

2.2 Dues

(a) Members of the Association shall pay annual dues except they are excused by a resolution of the General Assembly.

(b) The amount of annual dues shall be determined by the General Assembly on the advice of the Council.

(c) Members who fail to pay dues for two consecutive years and are not excused from paying shall be considered as having resigned. Such members may be reinstated by a resolution of the Council upon payment of outstanding dues.

2.3 Other Resources

(a) The Council shall be empowered, if necessary, to charge a registration fee to members attending a conference organized by the Association.

(b) The Council may negotiate or accept, on behalf of the Association, gifts, subsidies or any other resources.

2.4 Auditors

(a) The General Assembly shall appoint auditors, who shall examine the books, vouchers and accounts of the Association and determine whether they have been properly kept.

(b) The auditors who shall not exceed two in number may be elected by the General Assembly or through a postal ballot. The nominations of auditors shall be made by the Nominations Committee.

(c) The report of the auditors shall be submitted to the General Assembly through the Secretary-General and Treasurer.

3. NOMINATIONS

(a) As provided for under section 1.3(d) above, the Council shall set up a Nominations Committee of at least five ordinary members belonging to different countries.

(b) The tenure of office shall be two years with the possibility of individual members of the Committee being appointed for a further term.

(c) The Nominations Committee shall propose for each elected post two candidates taking into account geographical distribution, balance in discipline and sector of activity. The list of such nominees should be forwarded to reach the Executive Secretary at least 90 days before the date of the elections.

(d) The Nominations Committee shall conduct its business by mail or at the ordinary sessions of the General Assembly.

(e) Nominations forwarded to the Executive Secretary shall contain a statement of the candidate's present position(s) and of his scientific publications. Such information will be included in the list of nominations forwarded to members for election of officers and council.

(f) Alternative nominations may be submitted by at least ten members in good standing to the Executive Secretary to reach him at least 60 days before the announced date of the elections.

4. EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS

(a) Extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly may be convened on the initiative of the Council or if a group of at least fifty ordinary members from at least five different countries so request. The purpose of the session should be stated explicitly in the request for the meeting.

(b) The exact date and place of the extraordinary session shall be determined by the Council, in consultation with those who requested the meeting.

(c) Extraordinary sessions shall not exceed three working days.

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
LIMITED

E/ECA/PSD.3/26
25 January 1984

Original : ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Third Session of the Joint Conference
of the African Planners, Statisticians and
Demographers

Addis Ababa, 5-14 March 1984

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
REGIONAL POPULATION TRAINING INSTITUTES
PROGRESS REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		PARAGRAPHS
I.	Introduction	1 - 3
II.	IFORD : Training and Research	4 - 8
III.	RIPS : Training and Research	9 - 15
IV.	Main Problems Encountered at IFORD Academic and Administrative Problems	16 - 25
V.	Funding Problems	26 - 30
VI.	Main Problems Encountered at RIPS Academic and Administrative Problems	31 - 35
VII.	Funding and other Problems	36 - 43

I. Introduction

1. Reference is made to the paper entitled "An overview of the training of specialists in planning, statistics and demography" (E/ECA/PSD.3/11) presented to the plenary session and the paper entitled "Report on Population Activities in 1982-83 and Programme of Work for 1984-85" (E/ECA/PSD.3/27) which is presented to the Demographic Committee. Both of these papers discuss demographic training at the two African regional institutes - the Institute de formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD) located at Yaounde and the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) located in Accra. The objective of this paper is thus to bring to the attention of the Demographic Committee the main points dealt with in the two previous papers and to concentrate on reviewing the operational problems faced by the two regional institutes IFORD and RIPS as well as what action the secretariat has taken or proposes to take in solving these problems. The Demographic Committee is invited to discuss these problems with a view to making recommendations for handling them within the framework of an improved future operation of the two institutes. The committee is also invited to give suggestions about the future orientation of the institutes.

2. The ECA secretariat continued to be responsible for the management of the two regional population training institutes. This responsibility was assumed by the ECA during 1980-1981 pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 32/179. The amended statutes for both institutes, which provide for their regionalisation, were approved by the Eight Meeting of the Conference of Ministers held in Tripoli in 1982 and adopted by decision 37/444 of December 1982 by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

3. The basic objective of the courses given at the Regional Training Institutes is to give students a solid theoretical training in demography, practical experience in data collection and analysis, research as well as an understanding of population trends and their relation to socio-economic factors.

II. IFORD - Training and Research

4. The main training course at IFORD is a two year course leading to the Diplome d'Etudes Démographiques. Entry to the course is by a competitive examination. Students follow courses in demography, surveys, quantitative methods and other subjects such as population and development.

5. First year students also organize a field survey and spend almost one quarter of their time implementing it and processing the data collected. During the second year of the course, the students analyse the data. Between 1973 and 1983, IFORD admitted 148 students, out of whom 133 successfully completed the two year course. During the next four years IFORD plans to admit 20 students each year.

6. IFORD, also conducts a one year course on introduction to research for graduates from the diploma course. The students take part in the research activities of the Institute and also conduct individual research work under the supervision of more experienced demographers. An average of three demographers have taken this course each year.

7. IFORD organises at the national level short term middle level courses of about six weeks' duration on demography and social statistics. In addition to this IFORD organises annually refresher courses of about four weeks' duration based on a particular theme of interest to African demographers.

8. IFORD continued its research and publications activities. Surveys have been carried out in five African cities (Yaounde, Ouagadougou, Lome, Cotonou and Libreville) on infant and child mortality using a methodology designed by IFORD. During the next four years, the research activities at IFORD will concentrate on the analyses of the data collected from these surveys. IFORD's publications hold an important place in its activities as it promotes research activities in the member countries. Since 1979 IFORD has published the "African Demography Newsletter" which gives information on demographic activities and work done in the region. Since 1975 it has also produced "Les Annals de l'IFORD" which publishes research works undertaken at the Institute.

III. RIPS - Training and Research

9. The main training course at RIPS is a one year course leading to the Graduate Diploma in Population Studies of the University of Ghana. This course consists of intensive training in Technical Demography, Mathematics and Statistics, Substantive Demography, Economics and Sociology. Students also receive training in planning and executing field surveys as well as basic research methods. In addition RIPS conducts a course of guided research lasting some eighteen months and leading to the Master of Arts in Population Studies degree. Entry to this course is open to persons with the Graduate Diploma or an equivalent qualification and consists of both course work and research. There is also provision for a Ph.D. degree course.

10. Between 1972 and 1982 RIPS admitted 276 students into the Graduate Diploma course. Of this number 19 did not complete the course, 23 persons are still undergoing training, while 201 have successfully completed the course. During the same period, 81 students were admitted into the Master of Arts course, of whom 33 were awarded the degree. In addition five theses have been passed subject to revision, while nine theses have been submitted for examination and work is going on on 24 theses.

11. During the next four years RIPS plans to admit annually into the Graduate Diploma and Master of Arts courses, some 30 and 10 students respectively. Action has also been taken to transform the Graduate Diploma into a Master of Arts degree and the Master of Arts into a Master of Philosophy degree.

12. Apart from these regular courses, RIPS has assisted in the carrying out of ad-hoc training programmes for middle level personnel in the countries it serves. It is also planned that courses for population experts which deal with specialised topics will be held annually. One such course for 44 persons was held in July 1983 on "Fertility and Mortality Estimation Methods in Africa".

13. Advisory services have also been provided to Governments in the region and the international agencies. For example, RIPS in collaboration with ECA was responsible for conducting five demographic surveys which have formed the basis of planning the relocation of the capital city of Nigeria. The results of this joint ECA-RIPS effort has been published in four volumes. Having regard to its enhanced staff capabilities, RIPS intends to expand its advisory services consistent with this not adversely influencing its training programmes.

14. RIPS has been very active in research. Students working for the Masters degree carry out research on topics selected with the advice of their sponsoring organizations. Field work on these topics is undertaken in the students' home countries. In respect of Institute research, interesting results have been obtained on indirect estimation

methods, which have been reported on a the seminar on 'Fertility and Mortality Estimation Methods in Africa' and which will be published shortly. Work in this area and on a generalized stable population theory will be continued over the next four years and will be supported through the establishment of a population laboratory in Ghana.

15. In the field of information dissemination, RIPS publishes three newsletters - 'RIPS Newsletter', 'African Demography' and 'PIDSA Newsletter', giving information on work going on in the Institute and in the population field in Africa. A bi-annual abstract journal "PIDSA ABSTRACTS" is published under the Population Information and Documentation System for Africa (PIDSA). A training workshop for population information documentalists has been conducted and two manuals on population information and documentation published, while a source book on population information in Africa is under preparation.

IV. Main Problems Encountered at IFORD

Academic and Administrative Problems

16. Early in 1983 a UNFPA Evaluation mission visited IFORD and raised a number of queries. Some of these queries have been raised before and are summarized below:

17. The main criticism of the entry examination is that it is mainly a test of mathematics and statistics. The examination tends to discourage candidates who had completed their university education some years previously and who have had experience working in statistical offices. It also discourages students who do not have advanced knowledge of mathematics and statistics.

18. As regards the academic programme, it has been criticised as containing excessive mathematics, theoretical statistics and model building and data collection and too little on demographic analysis. This criticism was made by the UNFPA Evaluation Mission of 1976-1977 and again by the UNFPA Evaluation Mission of 1983.

19. As regards the IFORD Diploma, some countries still do not recognise its level when providing jobs to IFORD graduates. Criticism has been made that no external examiners are involved in grading students as passed or failed at the end of their course.

20. Criticism has been made of the suitability of some of the experts at IFORD. Only two have a demographic background. Three have qualifications only in statistics and economics, four are holders of the IFORD diploma, and none of the heads of Units is a demographer.

21. Steps are being taken to set up an evaluation committee to study these criticisms as well as the proposal to integrate IFORD into the University of Yaounde. The main arguments used for such an integration are that it will legitimise the IFORD diploma improve the system of admission and the selection of academic staff as well as broadening the students intellectual horizon.

22. IFORD has faced problems in the development of its research activities because of the priority given to training and the lack of personnel and financial resources to undertake research.

23. One of IFORD's tasks is to promote and strengthen demographic research in the countries it serves. This involves the carrying out of research work, the issuing of

publications in order to disseminate information and knowledge of African populations and to organize scientific meetings at which work done in the region can be presented and discussed by demographers working in the African region. More funds are needed for such activities.

24. IFORD has carried out surveys on Infant and Child Mortality in five African cities using methodology developed at IFORD. Due to financial constraints however, these surveys cannot be carried out in other cities. It is suggested therefore that during the next four years IFORD's research programme will concentrate mainly in the processing and analysis of data collected in these surveys.

25. IFORD has also faced administrative and financial management problems. These relate to the receipt and disbursement of extrabudgetary funds, the accounting system, the administration of staff and fellowships etc. Improvements are being made and it is expected that with the appointment of competent administrative and financial personnel the situation would greatly improve. ECA will also take up its monitoring role in the near future and regular missions will be undertaken to monitor closely the functioning of the institute.

V. Funding Problems

26. Perhaps the most crucial problem facing IFORD is that its main funding source, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) has decided to reduce its funding level from $ 858,000 in 1983 to $ 700,000 in 1984 i.e. by almost 20 per cent, UNFPA has explained that this sharp reduction was due to the previous level of funding which was the highest for any training institution. The UNFPA evaluation mission to IFORD examined the implications of the funding cuts and recommended that funds by UNFPA will among other things cover the salaries of four international staff: one as a director, one expert on formal demography, one expert on research methodology, statistics and sampling and one expert on population, development planning and socio-economic interrelations. Presently IFORD has six international staff apart from one expert provided by the French Government and three provided by the Cameroon Government.

27. UNFPA has pledged to continue to finance the institute for the next few years but has indicated that such financing will be drastically reduced after this. It is with this in mind that thought should be given to the idea of integrating the institute fully into the University of Yaounde. This will in the long term assure the existence of facilities for demographic training in the African region.

28. The 1982 meeting of the IFORD Governing Council recommended that the staff provided by the Cameroon Government should be given priority when international staff are recruited for IFORD. With the present funding constraints and with the existing rules for the recruitment of international staff it may be difficult to implement this proposal.

29. With the regionalization of the institute, the 25 countries served by IFORD are to be partially responsible for financing the institute. The 1982 Governing Council fixed the contributions of the member countries at CFA 7,000,000 each for 1982 and 1983. These funds would be used for paying the salaries of local staff, purchases of minor equipment as well as the financing of the Governing Council and Consultative Committee meetings. As of September 1983 only six of the member countries had paid contributions to IFORD. Benin, Cameroon and Congo paid their contributions for the two years whilst Senegal and Centrafrique paid for one year

and Guinea for 3 years. These contributions amounted to 37.9 million FCFA i.e. only 22 per cent of the amount expected if all the 25 member countries had paid their contributions. Consequently, IFORD has faced and still faces problems of paying the salaries of local staff. It is suggested that delegates should follow up with the relevant ministries in their countries so that contributions to IFORD are paid.

30. It is feared that the proposed UNFPA funding cuts coupled with the non-payment of the contributions of most of the member countries, would adversely affect the future efficient functioning of IFORD. The member countries should consequently reinforce their financial support to IFORD.

VI. Main Problems Encountered at RIPS

Academic and Administrative Problems

31. Early in 1983 a UNFPA Evaluation Mission visited RIPS and raised a number of queries. Some of these queries are dealt with below.

32. The general diploma course at RIPS has been criticised as being dominated by lectures and that there is little time for individual reading. Presently however the course is being restructured to raise it to a 12 month Masters Degree course. A curriculum revision committee has been set up to restructure the course and cut down the work load whilst ensuring that lecture hours are reduced without a reduction in course content.

33. Although the M.A. course is theoretically designed to take 12 months after successful completion of the diploma course, students never finish their dissertations in time and may take over two years to complete the course. This is partly because in most cases the students undertake field work in their countries of origin which takes up a considerable amount of time. When they return to RIPS processing and analysis of the data also takes a long time and students face considerable problems as RIPS presently does not have its own computer. It has been proposed that students should either go to RIPS with data from their home countries or should use data on African populations available at RIPS. This would eliminate the expensive and time consuming need to travel to their home countries to carry out field work. It is now hoped that a computer and ancillary software will be available early in 1984, as funds have now been allocated for this. The computer will not only further RIPS' research activities but will help M.A. students in processing the data for their theses.

34. Criticism has been made of the current practice of using Ghanaian M.A. students as research assistants. Many of these students receive a salary from the Government department that sent them to RIPS, a UN Fellowship plus a salary as research assistant paid by the institute. In the context of the present economic situation in Ghana, these students have no incentive to finish their thesis quickly. It is suggested that with the regionalization of the institute this practice should be discontinued as it is financially wasteful and non productive.

35. RIPS also has some administrative problems. These relate to the operation and control of non-UNFPA funds and administrative procedures regarding fellowships. These problems may be reduced consequent upon the recent improvements in the administrative capacity of the institute and the transfer to it of the control of its funds. ECA will also take up its monitoring role in the near future and regular missions will be undertaken to monitor closely the functioning of the institute.

VII. Funding and other Problems

36. Perhaps the most crucial problem facing RIPS is that its main funding source, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities has decided to reduce its funding level from $ 865,250 in 1983 to $ 700,000 in 1984 i.e. by almost 20 per cent. UNFPA has explained that this sharp reduction was due to the previous high level of funding. UNFPA has pledged to continue to finance the institute for the next few years but has indicated that such financing will be reduced drastically after this. Thought therefore needs to be given to the long term funding of the institute and to measures that may be necessary to assure the continued existence of facilities for demographic training in the African region.

37. Like IFORD, UNFPA proposes that only four international positions would be funded. These are the post of director, one expert on population - development planning and socio-economic interrelations, one expert on formal demography, and a fourth expert on research methodology, statistics and sampling. Presently RIPS has six international posts. It is feared that the proposed cuts coupled with the possible loss of professional staff supplied by the Ghana Government would adversely affect the efficient functioning of the institutes.

38. At present both institutes are being regionalized and it is expected that the member countries will participate fully in the running of the institutes by both attending meetings of their policy organs and contributing financially to the institutes. The prospects for the latter do not seem very bright and an appeal is again made to the member countries to shoulder their responsibilities to these institutes.

39. It is hoped that solutions will be found and that the future of the institutes will not be jeopardised.

40. Unlike IFORD, RIPS has not been able to hold the first session of its new Governing Council. An attempt was made to hold it in December 1982 but this was not successful as most of the member countries of the Governing Council failed to attend the meeting in Accra. It is hoped that the meeting will take place early in 1984 and that the member countries will attend.

41. One major problem facing RIPS is the difficult economic situation in the host country. Both staff and students as well as the institute itself have had to contend with the shortage of basic commodities. Non-availability of food, water, stationery and other day to day necessities has disturbed normal living conditions and has made it very difficult for the students to concentrate on their studies. This has resulted in strikes by the students e.g. 27 February to 17 March 1982 and 18-25 April 1983. The major complaint of the students concerns food. The Director of RIPS has made some arrangements to import basic commodities from Lomé, Togo. However, it is not clear whether this can be done on a regular and permanent basis in view of the closure of the land borders between Togo and Ghana and the irregularity of sea transport between Accra and Lomé.

42. Due to the economic problems in the host country, there has been some lack of enthusiasm on the part of some countries to send students to RIPS. Some students also, having completed the general diploma course, have been unwilling to stay on for the Masters Course for the same reasons.

43. Since 9 May 1983, the University of Ghana, on whose campus RIPS is located, has been closed. RIPS however has received the permission of the Governement to carry on its normal operations. However with the University administration functioning on a part time basis, with only one hall of residence open to RIPS students and with no catering facilities available, the situation is far from normal.

E/ECA/PSD.3/27

Readex
Fiche

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
LIMITED

E/ECA/PSD.3/27
25 October 1983

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers

Addis Ababa, 5-14 March 1984

REPORT ON POPULATION ACTIVITIES IN 1982-1983 AND PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1984-1985

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		PARAGRAPHS
I.	INTRODUCTION	1 - 4
II.	PROGRESS REPORT, 1982-1983	
	A. RESEARCH AND STUDIES	5 - 6
	B. NATIONAL SEMINARS	7 - 11
	C. ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF INFORMATION AND EXCHANGE	12 - 14
	D. ADVISORY SERVICES	15 - 19
	E. MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, EXPERT GROUPS AND SEMINARS	
	F. DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO MEETINGS, SEMINARS, CONFERENCES	
	G. TRAINING AND RESEARCH	
III.	PROGRAMME OF WORK 1984-1985 WITH PROJECTION UP TO 1989	
	A. Programme Objectives	
	B. Work Programme	

LC/MAS/284

Report on Population Activities in 1982-1983 and Programme of work for 1984-1985

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The period 1982-1983 like the previous biennium 1980-1981 was marked by both definite progress in the perception of population problems by African Governments and even greater limitation of resources available for consolidating achievements and making further progress. The decrease in real terms of the financial resources accorded by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities has resulted in a reduction in staff.

2. However, the secretariat's programme of work has continued, as in the past, to focus on information aimed at fostering greater awareness of the long- and short-term consequences of demographic trends, assistance to Governments in analysing demographic data and integrating population variables in development planning and assistance in achieving self-sufficiency in population activities by training African nationals in both the regional institutes financed by the United Nations, national training institutions and provision of in-service training to middle level personnel in the field of population.

3. Secretariat activities have continued to be carried out in a climate of extreme austerity, making it impossible to implement certain recommendations of the UNFPA evaluation mission which had acknowledged the need to increase resources and personnel. This situation has also caused delays or suspension in implementation of several projects planned in the programme of work.

4. It has therefore been necessary to evaluate the entire programme of work and its direction in the light of the low level of resources available for the increasing regional needs resulting from greater official awareness of the progress achieved in the availability of data to be analysed and of the establishment of new institutions with special responsibility for population issues.

II. PROGRESS REPORT, 1982-1983

A. RESEARCH AND STUDIES

5. During the period under review, the secretariat carried out a number of research projects and studies in the framework of implementing the progress of work that had been considered and approved during preceding conferences and adopted for implementation by the Conference of Ministers.

6. Reserach activities of the ECA Population Division have led to the completion of a number of documents, some of which were submitted to various meetings. Studies completed during this period include

A. Socio-economic Aspects

(i) The Population Division in collaboration with the ECA/FAO Agriculture Division, prepared a paper on Food Production and Population Growth in Africa.

B. Population Policies and Development Planning Programmes

(i) A comparative review of African Government's views on objectives, and policy instruments in the field of population and development;

(ii) The secretariat also carried out a study on manpower policies in relation to population trends.

C. Family Planning

Three studies on the demographic, health, economic and social impacts of family planning in selected African countries were undertaken, these are as follows:

(i) Family size preferences and child spacing patterns in Zambia;

(ii) Knowledge, practice and attitude to birth regulation among Zambian women;

(iii) Breast-feeding and sexual abstinence in Zambia.

D. Fertility and mortality levels, patterns and trends and their implications for socio-economic development

I. Technical publications on the relationships of infant and childhood mortality to fertility levels and patterns in African countries

(i) Mortality levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia;

(ii) Fertility levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia;

(iii) Marriage patterns and change in Zambia;

(iv) Body, height, and nutrition of Zambian children under five years of age;

(v) The influence of development related changes on infant and childhood mortality in Africa.

II. Technical publications on fertility and mortality, levels, trends and differentials in selected African countries

(i) Mortality levels, patterns and trends in Africa: comparative analysis in four selected East African countries;

(ii) Mortality levels, patterns and trends in Africa: comparative analysis in four selected West African countries;

(iii) Construction of life tables for selected African countries;

(iv) Marriage and fertility in Africa.

E. Population distribution migration, urbanization trends and their relationships to socio-economic development

(i) International migration in Africa

F. Population Projections including evaluation, adjustment and analysis of demographic data

(i) Population estimates and projections for the 50 ECA member States (1982 round);

(ii) Demographic Handbook for Africa (1980);

(iii) Demographic trends and policies in ECA member States, 1970-2000.

(iv) Levels, patterns, consequences and trends of urbanization in ECA member States;

(v) Implication of population trends for investment in education in ECA member States;

(vi) The problem of adjusting errors in age-sex data from censuses in African countries.

B. NATIONAL SEMINARS

7. Assistance to countries for the organization of national seminars has continued. The seminars scheduled for the Lesotho, Ivory Coast and Zambia were held and gave rise to reports.

8. Feedback seminar on Interrelationships among Infant and Childhood Mortality, Socio-economic Factors and Fertility in Zambia, was the first national seminar held in April 1982 in Kabwe, Zambia.

8. The seminar presented the results of the national survey undertaken jointly by ECA and Government of Zambia. These results were discussed by national experts working in the fields of health, education, social welfare, socio-economic planning and policy makers from the central policy making organs of the national party and government. The seminar made a series of recommendations aimed at launching an action programme to reduce current high levels of infant and childhood mortality and improve maternal and paternal care. The proceedings of the seminar are being published.

10. The Second National Seminar on Population and Development which was held in August 1982 in Maseru, Lesotho, was funded by United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The seminar discussed the results of the 1974 Population census, the 1977 fertility survey and the 1978/79 labour force-migration enquiry. The participants identified that the accelerating rate of population growth, that of labour force and resulting out-migration of job seekers required that policy makers should act to reverse the trend. The seminar was attended by policy makers, planners and experts from neighbouring countries in the region and international organizations. The proceedings of the seminar have been published.

11. The last National Seminar on Population and Development, which was held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast in December 1982 was organized jointly by ECA and the Government of Ivory Coast with financial support from UNFPA. It discussed the relationships between population and development planning and recommended actions in integration of population in planning process. The proceedings of the seminar have been published.

C. ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF INFORMATION AND EXCHANGE

12. The secretariat has continued to receive, either free of charge or by purchasing them, those documents which it considers to be of interest to readers and has distributed them throughout the region. Among them are Division publications which continued to appear regularly as planned. The African Population Newsletter, the African Population Studies Series, newly introduced Demographic and Related Socio-economic Data Sheets for ECA member States were all distributed during the period under review.

13. The reorganization of the documentation service of the Population Division has continued in order to improve and expand its service. However, under present circumstances it appears difficult to forecast how much assistance UNFPA might provide. The work of the documentation service has already been reorganized in anticipation of the expansion recommended by ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 366(XIV) adopted at its fifth meeting held at Rabat, Morocco. It is planned that the United Nations Population Network for African (POPIN Africa) should be established soon in the Population Division subject to funding.

14. The planned expansion will also depend on the interest expressed in it by member States. In this respect, the secretariat appeals once again for articles of a general nature from local press dealing with various aspects of population issues in order to publish them in its Newsletters, study series and other publications of the Division.

D. ADVISORY SERVICES

15. The secretariat has continued to provide assistance to countries which have requested it in carrying out various activities and in particular questionnaire design, tabulation plan, demographic data evaluation and analysis. Among countries received assistance are Botswana, Central African Republic, Comoros, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

16. Missions were undertaken to Libya and Sudan to advise the census and statistics departments on the proposed census questionnaire and to prepare tabulation programmes and analytical framework in consultation with data census officials and potential users. These services were given to countries like Botswana, Central African Republic, Comoros, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

17. Assistance was rendered to Kenya and Tanzania in the evaluation and analyses of their lattest census and in the preparation of analytical volumes. Advice was given to Zaire, Gabon, Zimbabwe and Tanzania in the preparation of population projections.

18. Missions were undertaken to evaluate the pilot vital registration units in Tanzania and set up a vital registration system in Comoros. A project document for Comoros has been resubmitted to UNFPA for funding.

19. The UNFPA requested the services of the Population Division for evaluation and programming needs assessment missions to Ivory Coast and to regional demographic institutions, RIPS and IFORD in connection with regionalization.

E. MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, EXPERT GROUPS AND SEMINARS

1. Technical preparatory committee of the whole and Eighth Meeting of ECA Conference of Ministers in Tripoli, Expert Group Meeting on Population, 14-30 April, 1982.

2. Feedback seminar of joint ECA/Government of Zambia on interrelationships among infant and childhood mortality, socio-economic factors and fertility in Zambia, Kabwe, Zambia, 18-24, 1982.

3. Aspects of Population Change and Development Implications for policy and research, organized by Sudan National Population Committee, Khartoum, Sudan, 26-29 April, 1982.

4. Consultative Meeting on ECA Population Information Network Activities, organized by ECA Population Division, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 14-16 June, 1982.

5. Third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and the First Meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 20 June - 2 July, 1982.

6. Seminar/workshop on Population Information and Documentation in Africa; organized by RIPS/PIDSA, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 12-16 July, 1982.

7. National Seminar on Population and Development, organized by ECA/ Government of Ivory Coast, Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 13-18 December, 1982.

8. Seminarie National sur les Politiques de Population; Bamako, Mali, 22-26 March, 1983.

9. Population, Resources, Environment and Development held at Geneva, 25-29 April, 1983.

10. Seminar on Application of Demographic Data in Development Planning, Moscow State University in USSR, 21 August to 4 September, 1983.

11. Preparatory Committee Meeting for the Second African Population Conference, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 14-16 June, 1982.

12. Council of Plenipotentiaries, North African MULPOC, Tangiers, Morocco, 1-4 March, 1982.

13. Interagency Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections, Geneva, Switzerland, 6-20 November, 1982.

14. Mission on Population Projections, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, 5-13 February, 1983.

15. African Nutrition Congress, Ibadan, Nigeria 28 February - 4 March, 1983.

16. Seminar on Nigeria's Population Dynamics, Zaria, Nigeria, 28 February - 4 March, 1983.

17. Experts meeting of the North African MULPOC, Tangiers, Morocco, 17-19 March, 1983.

18. Expert Group Meeting on Population Distribution, Migration and Development, Hammamet, Tunisia, 21-25 March, 1983.

F. DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO MEETINGS, SEMINAR, CONFERENCES

1. "Food Production and Population Growth in Africa" in collaboration with ECA/FAO Agriculture Division, 1982 (for Expert Group Meeting on PRED);

2. "Demographic Trends and Population Policies in Africa - 1983" (for USSR Seminar);

3. "Demographic content of African Development Plans 1983" (for USSR Seminar);

4. "Lesotho - A demographic, socio-economic profile", National Seminar on Population and Development Planning, 26-28 August, 1982.

5. "Lessons learnt from the 1970 round of census and surveys in Lesotho", National Seminar on Population and Development Planning, Lesotho, 26-28 August, 1982.

6. Population data requirements and their application in health planning, USSR Seminar, 1983.

7. "Causes and consequences of internal migration", volume on migration being prepared by ECA Statistics Division, 1982.

8. "Labour force and migration in Lesotho", National Seminar on the report of ILO/JASPA, Lesotho, 24-27 May 1983.

9. Family-Household structure and change in Zambia.

10. Body, Height and Nutrition of Zambian Children under five years of age

11. Methodology

12. Some Aspects of Migration in the Development of Zambia.

13. Mortality levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia.

14. Marriage patterns and change in Zambia.

15. Breast feeding and sexual abstinence in Zambia.

16. Food and feeding patterns and habits in Zambia.

17. Fertility levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia.

18. Family size preferences and child spacing patterns in Zambia.

19. Availability and use of medical facilities in Zambia.

20. Knowledge, practice and attitude to birth regulations among Zambian women.

21. Marriage and fertility in Africa.

22. The influence of development related changes on infant and childhood mortality in Africa.

23. Mortality levels, patterns and trends; a comparative analysis for selected East African countries.

24. Mortality levels, patterns and trends, a comparative analysis for selected West African countries.

25. Life tables for selected African countries.

26. Establishment of Population Information Network for Africa (POPIN-Africa) some Guidlines for consideration.

27. Long term consequences of migration between the Maghreb countries and Western Europe.

28. Overview of Population and Socio-economic Development in Africa.

29. Techniques of population estimation.

30. Progress report on a study of population migration and development in the Maghreb countries.

31. Migration population distribution and development in Africa.

32. "Relation entre population et developpement: une approche methodologique pour l'Afrique.

G. TRAINING AND RESEARCH

1. During the period under review, a staff member of the Population Division delivered lecutres at the East African Statistical Training Centre, Dar-es-Salaam as part of the ECA's backstopping activities in demographic training.

2. The Division in collaboration with Central Statistical Office, Zanzibar organized an in-service training course for middle level personnel working in statistical institutions in Tanzania. Three staff members gave lectures to the participants. A work book containing proceedings of the workshop is being published.

3. A staff member in the Division also gave lectures in demography to middle level personnel of the Ethiopia Pensions and Social Security Authority, in collaboration with ECA Statistics Division.

4. During the period 1982-1983, the ECA secretariat continued to be fully responsible for the management of the two demographic training institutes, namely the Institut de Formation et de Recherche Demographiques (IFORD) and the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS). This responsibility was assumed by the secretariat during 1980-1981, pursuant to General Assemly Resolution 32/179.

5. In accordance with the Conference of Ministers resolutions 367(XIV), 393(XV) and 426(XVI), the regionalization of IFORD and RIPS in progressing. The 11th meeting of the IFORD Governing Council and its session of the new Governing Council as defined by the new statutes of the Institute, was held in June 1982. An attempt was also made to hold the first session of the new Governing Council of RIPS in December 1982. The next meeting is scheduled to take place in 1984.

The amended statutes for both Institutes were approved by the Eight Meeting of the Conference of Ministers held in Tripoli in April 1982 and adopted by decision 37/444 of 21 December 1982 by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The statutes provide for the regionalization of both Institutes.

Both IFORD and RIPS continued their training activities. At IFORD, the main training activity continued to be a two-year course leading to the Diplome d'Etudes Demographiques. At RIPS steps are being taken to transform the General Deplona in Demography into Master of Arts degree and the Master of Arts degree into a Master of Philosophy degree. Since its establishment IFORD has trained 120 graduate students whilst RIPS has trained more than 200 students at the diploma level, of whom 80 students have taken the Master of Arts course.

IFORD, continued its research and publication activities. Surveys on infant and child mortality have been carried out in five African cities. The analysis of the data collected will be undertaken during the next four years. The African Demographic Liaison Bulletin, which is the only regular publication of the institute, continued to be published. RIPS continued its research and documentation collection and publication activities. The African Demography, PIDSA Newsletter and PIDSA Abstracts continued to be published.

III. PROGRAMME OF WORK 1984-1985 WITH PROJECTION UP TO 1989

A. Programme Objectives

This programme has three subprogrammes whose respective objectives during the plan period 1984-1989 will be as follows:

SUBPROGRAMME 1. POPULATION POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The objectives of this subprogramme are to assist Governments of member countries in the formulation and implementation of effective population policies and in the integration of population variables into development planning; to promote consideration in the development planning process of the interactions between economic and social development issues and such issues as population structure, movements and changes.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS IN THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The objectives of this subprogramme are to develop, test and apply techniques of demographic research within the context of socio-economic development in Africa and to study and evaluate factors responsible for demographic trends and structural changes, especially those factors related to the social and economic situation and national characteristics.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. REGIONAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH

The objective of this subprogramme is to assist Governments in the training of personnel for work in population and in the use of the research facilities and advisory services.

B. Work Programme

SUBPROGRAMME 1. POPULATION POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

1.1 Advisory services to countries and territories

Final Output:

Advisory services to member States in the formulation and implementation of relevant population policies in the integration of population variables in development planning and in evaluation of family planning programmes (two countries in 1984 and two countries in 1985).

1.2 Assessment of population policies in socio-economic development planning in Africa

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on a review of population policies in Africa (fourth quarter 1984).

1.3 Evaluation of the demographic impact of population programmes in African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on comparative analysis on the effect of family planning programmes on fertility, maternal and child mortality in six African countries (fourth quarter 1985).

1.4 Evaluation of population redistribution policies and programmes in selected African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on an evaluation of population redistribution policies and programmes in selected African countries (Second Quarter 1985).

1.5 The integration of population variables and policies in development plans

Final Output:

(i) Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on the African experience in integrating population variables and policies in development plans (fourth quarter 1985),

(ii) Substantive servicing of national seminars on the integration of population variables in development plans (one seminar in 1984 and one seminar in 1985).

SUBPROGRAMME 2: DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS IN THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme elements:

2.1 Advisory services to countries and territories on census and survey data analysis

Final Output:

Advisory services to member States, on request in evaluating and analysing data from population censuses, surveys and vital registration systems; (two countries in 1984 and two in 1985) and providing on-the-job training for nations in demographic analysis; (two countries in 1984 and two in 1985).

2.2 Fertility levels, patterns, differentials and trends in selected African countries

(i) Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on fertility levels, patterns, differentials and trends in African countries and their policy implications (fourth quarter 1984),

(ii) One regional training workshop on techniques of fertility and mortality analysis for 30 participants from selected countries (fourth quarter of 1985).

2.3 Family formation, structure and fertility in selected African countries

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on social, cultural and economic determinants of family structure and formation and their influence on fertility, infertility and subfertility in selected African countries (third quarter of 1985).

2.4 Mortality levels, patterns, differentials and trends in selected African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on comparative study of regional and socio-economic group variation in mortality in Africa (fourth quarter of 1984).

2.5 Inter-relationships among infant and childhood mortality socio-economic factors and fertility in selected African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on infant and childhood mortality in Africa including the influence of breast feeding on fertility and infant mortality (fourth quarter 1985).

2.6 Population projections including evaluation, adjustment and analysis of demographic data for the African region

Final output:

(i) Technical publication: Demographic Handbook for Africa (fourth quarter 1984),

(ii) Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on population projections and policies for the ECA member States (fourth quarter 1985),

(iii) One regional training workshop on population projections for 30 participants from selected countries (first quarter 1985).

2.7 Trends in subregional variations in population distribution and urbanization in Africa and their effects on agricultural and industrial development

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on subregional variations and trends in population distribution and urbanization as well as their effects on agricultural and industrial development in the African region (fourth quarter 1985).

2.8 Population information and clearinghouse services

Final Output:

(i) Technical publications: Two issues of the African Population Newsletter per year; (one in 1984 and one in 1985). One issue of the African Population Studies Series in 1985; two issues of Annotated Bibliographies on Population (one in 1984 and one in 1985),

(ii) One training workshop on population information and documentation (third quarter 1984).

SUBPROGRAMME 3: REGIONAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Programme elements:

3.1 Technical support to the substantive and administrative activities of the regional population studies institutes

Final Output:

Assistance to the substantive and administrative activities of the regional population studies and institutes: The following activities are carried out throughout the year:

(a) the identification and selection of about 30 candidates for UNFPA fellowships in demographic training at RIPS and IFORD,

(b) reviewing and making proposals on the budgets of the United Nations regional Demographic Training and Research Institutes and identifying donors for their research and related activities;

(c) Backstopping training programmes and research activities of these institutes;

(d) Performing supportive services related to the organization of Governing Council and Advisory Board Meetings recruitment of staff, preparation of budget submissions and disbursement of resources in collaboration with ECA Division of Administration and Technical Assistance Co-ordination and Operations Office.